



CENSUS OF INDIA 1971

SERIES— 29

LACCADIVE, MINICOY & AMINDIVI ISLANDS

PORTRAIT OF POPULATION

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L. M. & A. ISLANDS

FOREWORD

This attempt to produce a popular version of the large census data for the general reader is an important innovation of the 1971 Indian census. Census publications concerning even a State run into a number of volumes. It is not possible for those who are not specialists to go through them all. At the same time, the basic information contained in the hundreds of census tables is rich and of significance to a much larger number of the public than is likely to consult the census series. It is with a view to cater for this group of readers grown up as also those who are now in high schools and colleges that this Portrait of Population relating to every State has been produced. It seeks to present in a brief compass all that may be of interest to the general reader and that too in a non-technical language.

I trust this venture will be welcomed and will help to introduce every responsible citizen to the scope and variety of information that is contained in our decennial census reports.

NEW DELHI
17th October, 1973.

A. CHANDRA SEKHAR
Registrar General, India

P R E F A C E

Shifting emphasis from population to people the 'Portrait of population' presents various details in absolute and relative perspectives. It is certainly going to be the basis or guide-post to various projects that may be undertaken in future. Though full of statistical data, the way they are presented will satisfy the curiosity of laymen also.

I will not be guilty of any exaggeration if I mention that but for the unmitigated devotion and relentless endeavours of the team of staff working in the Directorate of Census Operations Kavaratti, this work would not have been so successfully completed and brought out in time. My congratulations to Shri A.K. Biswas, Assistant Director of Census Operations and his staff.

I will be failing in my duty if I do not gratefully recall the valuable guidelines received in this regard from Shri K. K. Chakravorthy, Assistant Registrar General.

Finally, I am thankful to the Government of India Press, Coimbatore for the excellent work in printing the book.

KAVARATTI
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(S. D. LAHKAR)

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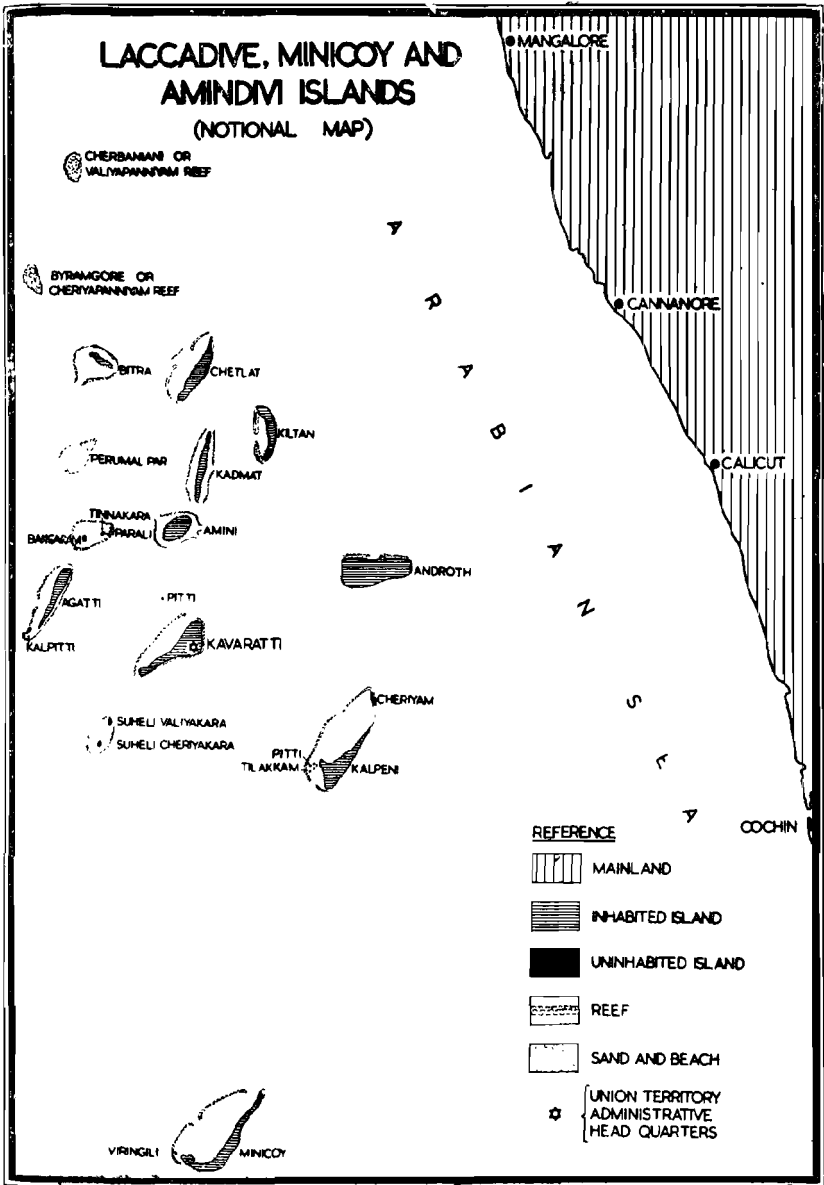
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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

The 'Portrait of Population' as the name suggests, presents a simple version of the population of Laccadive, Minicoy and Amindivi Islands as revealed by the 1971 Census. Preparation of such kind of book in the form of popular version is mainly intended to meet the requirements of High School & Undergraduate students, public men and those in charge of local administration. Another object of this book is to bring to the average reader an awareness of the demographic situation prevailing in our Union Territory. Though this book may not cater the need of individual reader for going into the detail insight of problems, but for average reader, we hope that it will be of quite useful considering the fact that an attempt has, been made to put together of all the efforts made in other series of publications of the present census.

The word 'Census' is derived from the Latin word "Censere" meaning 'to assess' or 'to rate'. Literally, the word 'Census' means an official enumeration of inhabitants of a place at a given point of time. According to the United Nations the census of population is defined as the total process of collecting, compiling and publishing demographic, economic & social data pertaining to a specified time or times to all persons in a country or delimited territory. In a nutshell, the term 'Census' can be defined as the operations of counting all persons living in a particular area and then collecting, tabulating and publishing details of age, sex, marital status, fertility, place of birth, place of last residence, religion, mother tongue, literacy, educational level and occupation etc. Thus the study of population covers the total process of collecting, compiling and publishing not only the number of people

and its relation to current and potential resources but also the characteristics of the population and their relations to the society and economy.

The population 'Census' is a very old age phenomenon and is known to have existed even before Jesus Christ in the countries like Egypt, China, Rome, Babylonia etc. In the old Testament, there was reference of Census during biblical time. In India, there exists evidence of conducting Census in the book entitled 'Arthashastra' written by the famous Kautilya who prescribed the collection of population statistics as a measure of State Policy for the purpose of taxation. The great traveller Magasthenis also supported the writing of Kautilya. „Thus, it has been observed that the practice of periodic census taking in many countries for various purposes was not uncommon in the ancient world.

India has a century old tradition of taking organised decennial census and the census of 1971 marks the completion of hundred years of taking modern census. The history of modern census of India started with the establishment of British East India Company in India. With a view to the maximum exploitation of the human resources in its ever expanding Indian settlements, the company was encouraged to take census specially for collection of revenue of taxes, etc. Though the Census of England had begun in the year 1801, but it took some time to carry out systematic census for ascertaining the population of the dependancies and territories of the empire. The foundation stone of modern census taking in British India was laid by the 1867-72 group of censuses known together as the census of 1872. From the year 1881, the final uniform and complete census of population was conducted throughout India providing the most complete and detailed demographic record for any comparable population. Though systematic taking of census of

population started from 1881, but it took long way to arrive at the realistic path. Prior to 1941, conducting census was synchronous one i.e. the Census enumeration throughout the country was undertaken on a particular night excepting snowclad & inaccessible areas where census was taken at different periods. The one night operation of counting population with a huge number of enumerators in a country like India was very difficult task for organiser. In order to avoid this difficulty, from 1941 onwards, the method of "simultaneous enumeration" was given up & the enumeration was spread over a time. Since then, a lot of improvement has been made in taking census. In the year 1948, the Government of India passed a census Act which makes conducting of decennial census compulsory in our country. It guarantees that the information given by the respondent will be kept confidential and will only be utilised for statistical purpose. Upto 1951, the census organisation used to be set up on the eve of census and was then wound up just after its completion and publication of reports. Now a permanent census organisation with its States/Union Territories offices spread throughout the country has been created after 1961 census. A major break through occurred in the history of census of India when all the census data in 1961 census was tabulated exhaustively & published.

The importance of collecting various information through census in the earlier days was very great on account of the fact that in those days the strength of the population and consequently of the army was a very vital factor in the establishment and expansion of empires. The concept of population census has undergone a considerable change and today, a census is not a mere counting of heads. In the words of Sardar Vallabhai Patel: "It involves extraction of information which plays a vital role in determination of many of

our administrative policies. The facts elicited during the course of this operation yield valuable scientific data of sociological importance. In many matters, it provides useful guidance for the effectiveness or otherwise of our economic policies". Importance of population census for a country like ours is still great because for some time past we have been witnessing a constant race between food supply & population. In the world today, Census is of great public utility which can be found in the following spheres of National life: (1) Administration and Policy (2) Business and Industry (3) Research purpose (4) Sample Surveys (5) Planning (6) Electoral Rolls (7) Other types of Censuses like Housing census, Live stock Census etc. (8) Civil Registration and Vital Statistics and (9) Manpower and Consumer potential of the National product.

How Census Operation is organised:

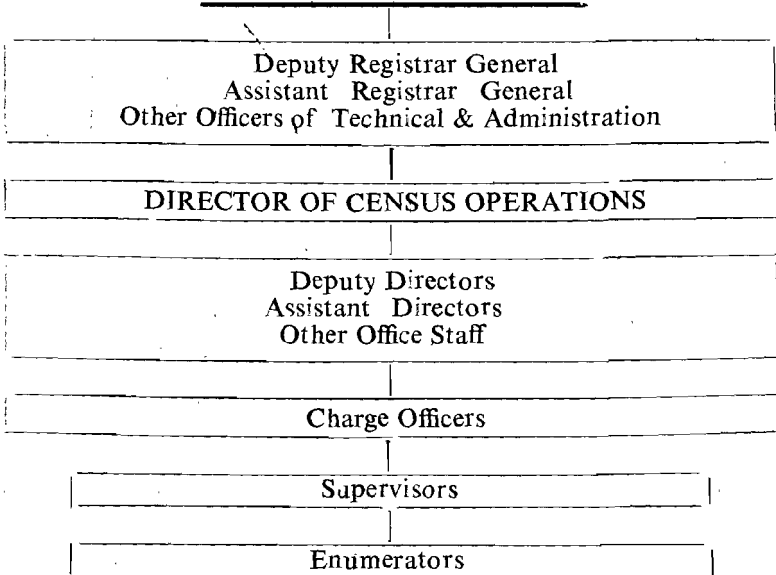
The Indian Census is considered to be the largest administrative operation of the world. Census count is an operation of vast magnitude, more so because the enumeration has to be completed within a specified period of time. The successful completion of such kind of gigantic task is only done with the close co-operation of the Central Government, State Government and Union Territory Governments in one hand, and with willing co-operation of every citizen and of the army of trained honorary workers engaged as enumerators, supervisors etc. Then it is clear that this vast task of national importance can be completed successfully only when the citizens of India realise the value of census taking and extend their full co-operation with the organiser.

The President of India is empowered to issue a notification declaring the intention of the Government of India to take census for the whole country or any part of it and accordingly he appoints a census com-

missioner who is also Registrar General, India for conducting the Census Work. The President of India also appoints Director of Census Operations in various States/Union Territories under the guidance of the Census Commissioner. For smooth functioning of the work of Census Operations, the Director of each State/Union Territory is assisted by the Deputy Director, Assistant Director etc. The field agency was constituted by the employees from various organisations of Government and Semi-Government. They attend the complete work of enumeration in addition to their normal duties. This group includes District charge Officers, under them are Tahsil/Town charge officers or Assistant charge officers. Supervisors and enumerators are, however, appointed at village/ward level. Census hierarchy adopted during 1971 Census is given below:

CENSUS HIERARCHY

REGISTRAR GENERAL INDIA



From above, it can be seen that the Indian Census is one of the most organised and economical operations in the world and it is also one of the greatest co-operative endeavours between the citizens and the organiser.

The 1971 Census

The Census of 1971 was taken in various states union territories of India between the period from 10th March to 31st March, 1971. A revision round was taken by the enumerators on the first, the second and third days of April, 1971. The reference date was sunrise of first April, 1971. The canvasser method of enumeration which is invogue in India was used. This method involves a clear delimitation of the territories by which every individual is counted at his or her place of residence. Even no houseless person and persons in treatment were left out during census. During the period of revision round i.e. from 1st April, to 3rd April, the enumerators visited every household, cancelled the enumeration of persons who died between the date of enumeration and sunrise of 1st April, and enumerated every child born during this period. If the enumerator came across a visitor in any household who had to stay there during the above period and had not been enumerated elsewhere, he was also enumerated.

Prior to the formation of this Union Territory the islands were part of Madras State. Five islands along with their uninhabited islets were attached to the former Malabar district and the remaining five were attached to the South Kanara district. The first census after the formation of this Union Territory was conducted in the year 1961. In the year 1959, a separate section of census was set up headed by the Ex-officio Superintendent assisted by Statistical Assistant,

Census Assistant and other office staff. As soon as the work of enumeration was completed, the remaining work was entrusted with the Superintendent of Census Operations, Kerala.

It was in the year 1970 that an independent office for the enumeration work was constituted. The census hierarchy for 1971 census of this Union Territory constituted of Director of Census Operations (Ex-Officio) at Union Territory level assisted by an Assistant Director of Census Operations. The enumeration work was based according to the electoral blocks of the islands. The electoral blocks were divided into convenient units known as Enumerators' block. Three or more enumerator's blocks were put under one supervisor. Since this Union Territory is considered as single district the Tahsildars were made Census Officers (charge officers) in the islands under their jurisdiction. Under the charge officers were supervisors and under the supervisor were enumerators. The supervisors and enumerators were appointed from educational institution and various Government departments of this Union Territory. In order to organise the work of census as well as to elicit requisite information 4 charge officers, 14 Circle Supervisors and 52 Enumerators were appointed.

The following sequence of operations are followed in population census:

1. Preparatory (2) House numbering and house-listing (3) Enumeration (4) Data processing (5) Evaluation of Census (6) Analysis of results (7) Dissemination of results (8) Publication.

At the time of preparation of final census schedule it has become imperative to consult data users like various research & professional educational institutions, University Professors, eminent Scholars, Demographic

bodies, public health concerns and various other Government organisations viz. Planning Commission, National Building organisation, and different Ministries of Government of India.

The schedules for the 1971 Census comprised of : (1) Houselist (2) Establishment schedules (3) Individual slip (4) population record. In addition to the above, a card was also filled in for the degree holders and the technical personnels. The Houselist prescribed for 1971 census was uniform throughout India. In respect of the houses, whether residential or not, the following particulars are recorded.

(1) Building number (2) Census House number (3) Material of wall (4) Material of roof (5) purpose for which the census house is used (6) whether it is used wholly or partly as an establishment.

In case of residential houses the following additional particulars were collected : (1) Household number (ii) Name of the Head of the household (iii) If scheduled caste or Scheduled Tribe (iv) Number of living rooms in the census household (v) Whether owned or rented (vi) Number of residents (sex-wise) (vii) Whether the household cultivates land.

In respect of the house used as an establishment, the following details were recorded in the Establishment Schedule: (i) Census House number (ii) Name of the establishment or of the proprietor (iii) Whether Government/quasi Government, Private or co-operative institution (iv) Average number of persons working daily (v) Whether household industry, registered factory or unregistered workshop (vi) Description of the product, processing or servicing done (vii) Type of fuel or power used (viii) Description of goods brought or sold (ix) Whether wholesale or retail (x) Description if used as any other establishment.

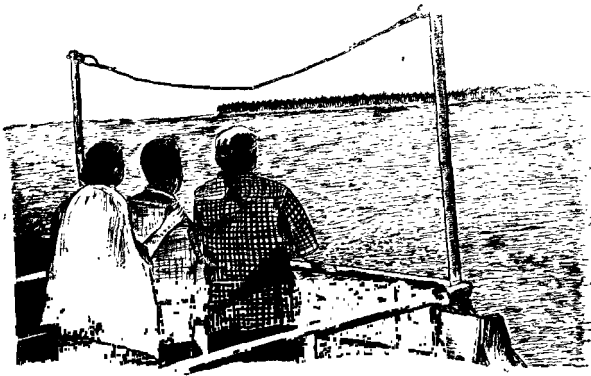
The main schedule of the 1971 census is the Individual slip which is universally canvassed for every individual in the country. The Individual slip for the 1971 census contained 17 questions. Besides the usual demographic questions, it also included the following.

(1) Fertility of currently married women and (ii) Data on migration by duration of last place of residence. Besides these, certain urban data came out in table form in unison with a new concept of 'Standard Urban Area' (SUA). It has further been decided to take up in addition to some ancillary studies, restudy of some selected villages and towns. The reference drawn from the census data are based on the answers recorded in the individual enumeration slips against the questions. The individual slip and important concept adopted for filling up the schedules are reproduced in Appendix I & II.

In addition to the above schedules, the enumerators also prepared a population record for every household from the individual slip of each members of the household. This schedule enables to study the family composition which is the basic characteristic of the country.

Thus this small book portrays certain basic characteristics of the population of Laccadive, Minicoy & Amindivi islands such as the size of population, its distribution, growth rate, density, age composition,

sex-ratio, literacy, mother-tongue, religion, Scheduled Castes & Scheduled Tribes and the broad economic activity of the population etc. as revealed by the 1971 census figures. All the above aspects of our population will be discussed in detail in the following chapters.



CHAPTER II

HOW MANY, ARE WE? HOW ARE WE DISTRIBUTED AND BY HOW MUCH ARE OUR MEMBERS GROWING?

There are 54,81,59,652 people living in various parts of India as per 1971 Census. The population count of 1971 census of L.M.&A. Islands reveals that there are 31,810 people which constitutes only 0.01% of the total population of India. Though this proportion is very very small, however, it does not mean that we are very less in number when compared to the land we do possess. Before going into the details of population of our islands, it will be worthwhile if you are told about the size of population of different countries of the world. As per the latest estimates, the population of our planet is 3,706 millions which is infact 7 times the population of India. We can, thus, see that one in every seven in the world is an Indian. We Indian also constitute 15% of the world population. You may be surprised to come to know that one of our constituent states, Uttar Pradesh has not only the largest population among all the states of India but it also occupies the sixth largest position in the world map. Table given below justifies the fact:

TABLE

(Figures in millions)

China	.	.	.	.	.	759.6
U.S.S.R.	.	.	.	.	.	242.8
U.S.A.	.	.	.	.	.	205.4
Indonesia	.	.	.	.	.	121.2
Japan	.	.	.	.	.	103.5
Uttar Pradesh	.	.	.	.	.	88.3

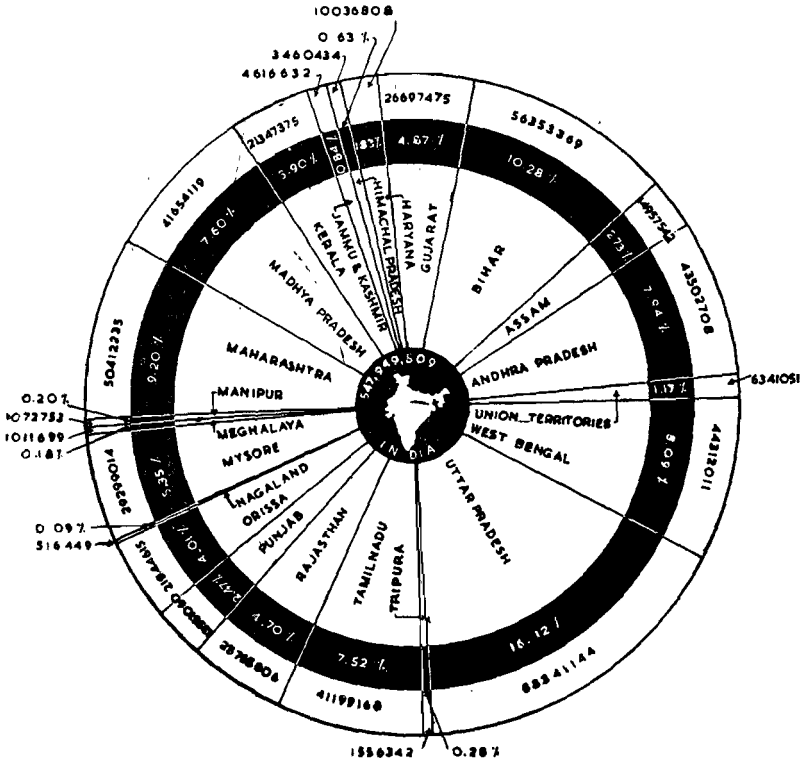
In fact China, India, U.S.S.R. and U.S.A. comprise half of the population of the world. Though our union territory contains only 0.01% of the total population of India, size of its population can be compared with only one country viz. St. Croix of North America with 31,892 population as per 1970 Census. You will be definitely interested to know the size of population of different states and union territories of India as per 1971 census. In order to facilitate comparison of the size of population, all the states and union territories are ranked and compared with 1961 size of population.

TABLE
RANKWISE DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION DURING
1971 AND 1961 FOR VARIOUS STATES AND
UNION TERRITORIES

Name of States/ Union Territories	Population in 1971	Rank	Population in 1961	Rank
1	2	3	4	5
INDIA	548,159,652		439,234,771	
Uttar Pradesh	88,341,144	1	73,754,554	1
Bihar	56,353,369	2	46,447,457	2
Maharashtra	50,412,235	3	39,553,718	3
West Bengal	44,312,011	4	34,926,279	5
Andhra Pradesh	43,502,708	5	35,983,447	4
Madhya Pradesh	41,654,119	6	32,372,408	7
Tamil Nadu	41,199,168	7	33,686,953	6
Mysore	29,299,014	8	23,586,772	8
Gujarat	26,697,475	9	20,633,350	9
Rajasthan	25,765,806	10	20,155,602	10
Orissa	21,944,615	11	17,548,846	11

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COMPARATIVE POPULATION SIZE OF STATES OF INDIA 1971 CENSUS (EXCLUDING SIKKIM)



	1	2	3	4	5
Kerala . . .	21,347,375	12	16,903,715	12	
Assam (including					
Mizoram) :	14,957,542	13	11,103,392	14	
Punjab . . .	13,551,060	14	11,135,069	13	
Haryana . . .	10,036,808	15	7,590,543	15	
Jammu & Kashmir	4,616,632	16	3,560,976	16	
Delhi . . .	4,065,698	17	2,658,612	18	
Himachal Pradesh .	3,460,434	18	2,812,463	17	
Tripura . . .	1,556,342	19	1,142,005	19	
Manipur . . .	1,072,753	20	780,037	20	
Meghalaya . . .	1,011,699	21	769,380	21	
Goa, Daman & Diu	857,771	22	626,667	22	
Nagaland . . .	516,449	23	369,200	23	
Pondicherry . . .	471,707	24	369,079	24	
Arunachal Pradesh	467,511	25	336,558	25	
Chandigarh . . .	257,251	26	119,881	27	
Sikkim . . .	209,843	27	162,189	26	
Andaman & Nicobar					
Islands . . .	115,133	28	63,548	28	
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	74,170	29	57,963	29	
L.M &A Islands .	31,810	30	24,108	30	

From the above table, it is observed that states like Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Maharashtra maintained their first, second and third rank respectively in both the censuses whereas the states like West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh, Assam etc. improved rank by size of population in 1971 over 1961. However, our union territory maintains same rank (ie 30) in both the decades. Further, our union territory is not only the smallest by the size of population but by the area as well (32 sq. kms) among all the states and union territories of India. Taking the population of India as

a whole it can be seen that one in every 17,232 hails from L.M.&A. islands and similarly one among 199 persons considering the population of all union territories.

Distribution of population

The L.M.&A. group of islands are treated as one district for administrative convenience. Hence the average population of the district will be the same as that of union territory as a whole. The average population of one district in India is 15,97,666 which is 51 times greater than that of ours. Table given below shows the average population of a district arranged in descending order among states and union territories.

TABLE
AVERAGE POPULATION OF A DISTRICT IN THE STATE/
UNION TERRITORY

Sl. No.	State/U.T.	Average po- pulation of a district in the State/ Union Terri- tory
1	2	3
STATES		
1.	Bihar	3,314,904
2.	Tamil Nadu	2,942,798
3.	West Bengal	2,769,501
4.	Kerala	2,134,738
5.	Andhra Pradesh	2,071,588
6.	Maharashtra	1,938,932
7.	Orissa	1,688,047
8.	Uttar Pradesh	1,635,947
9.	Mysore	1,542,053
10.	Assam	1,495,754

1	2	3
11.	Haryana	1,433,829
12.	Gujarat	1,405,130
13.	Punjab	1,231,915
14.	Rajasthan	990,993
15.	Madhya Pradesh	968,700
16.	Tripura	518,781
17.	Meghalaya	505,850
18.	Jammu & Kashmir	461,663
19.	Himachal Pradesh	346,043
20.	Manipur	214,551
21.	Nagaland	172,150
22.	Sikkim	52,461
<i>Union Territories</i>		
1.	Delhi	4,065,698
2.	Goa Daman & Diu	285,924
3.	Chandigarh	257,251
4.	Pondicherry	117,927
5.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	115,133
6.	Arunachal Pradesh	93,502
7.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	74,170
8.	Laccadive, Minicoy & Amindivi Islands	31,810
INDIA		1,522,666

NOTE : Assam includes Mizo district which is now called as union territory of Mizoram.

The district with the largest population in India is 24 parganas of West Bengal with a population of 84,49,482 and that of Lahul and Spiti of Himachal pradesh is the least populated district (i.e. 23,538). Among union territories, Delhi is having a population 40,65,698 which exceeds the all India district average. Among the

states, Bihar has the highest average district population whereas Sikkim has the least.

There are 22 islands and 5 attached islets in L.M. & A. group of islands. So far, 10 out of 22 islands are inhabited and for the purpose of Census Operations each inhabited island is taken as the ultimate unit in lieu of village. The table given below gives the number of inhabited islands in the form of time series.

Year	1971	1961	1951	1941	1931	1921	1911	1901
U.T. of L.M. & A Islands	10	10	10	10	9	9	10	9

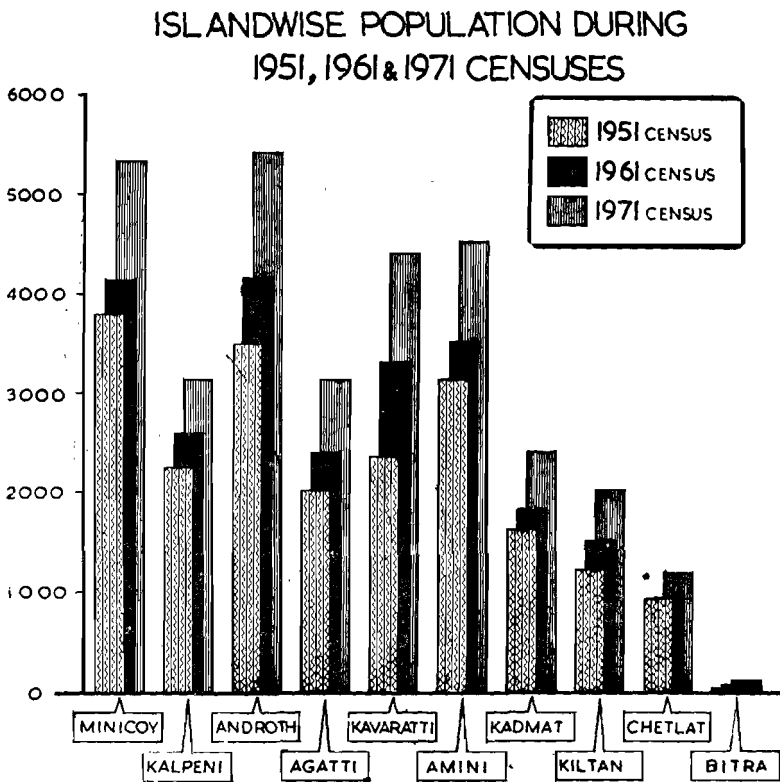
These coral islands are irregularly scattered in the Arabian Sea between 8° and 12° -30' north latitude and between 71° and 74° east longitude. The table given below shows distribution of population of all the inhabited islands during the censuses of 1951, 1961 and 1971 and corresponding percentage decadal variations during 1951-61 and 1961-71 respectively.

TABLE

RANKWISE DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION DURING 1951, 1961 AND 1971 FOR DIFFERENT ISLANDS AND THEIR CORRESPONDING DECADAL PERCENTAGE VARIATION DURING (1951-61) AND (1961-71)

Name of Islands	Population 1951	Rank 1951	Population 1961	Rank 1961	Population 1971	Rank 1971	Percentage decadal variation	
							1951-61	1961-71
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Minicoy	3804	1	4139	2	5342	2	8.81	29.06
Androth	3500	2	4183	1	5425	1	19.51	29.69

16(a)



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Amini ·	3159	3	3530	3	4542	3	11·74	28·67
Kavaratti ·	2390	4	2828	4	4420	4	18·33	56·29
Kalpeni ·	2269	5	2613	5	3152	6	15·16	20·63
Agatti ·	2029	6	2411	6	3155	5	18·83	30·86
Kadmat ·	1641	7	1851	7	2416	7	12·80	30·52
Kiltan ·	1249	8	1520	8	2046	8	21·70	34·61
Chetlat ·	948	9	953	9	1200	9	0·53	25·92
Bitra ·	46	10	80	10	112	10	73·91	40·00
L.M. & A.								
Islands ·	21035	..	24108	..	31810	..	14·61	31·95

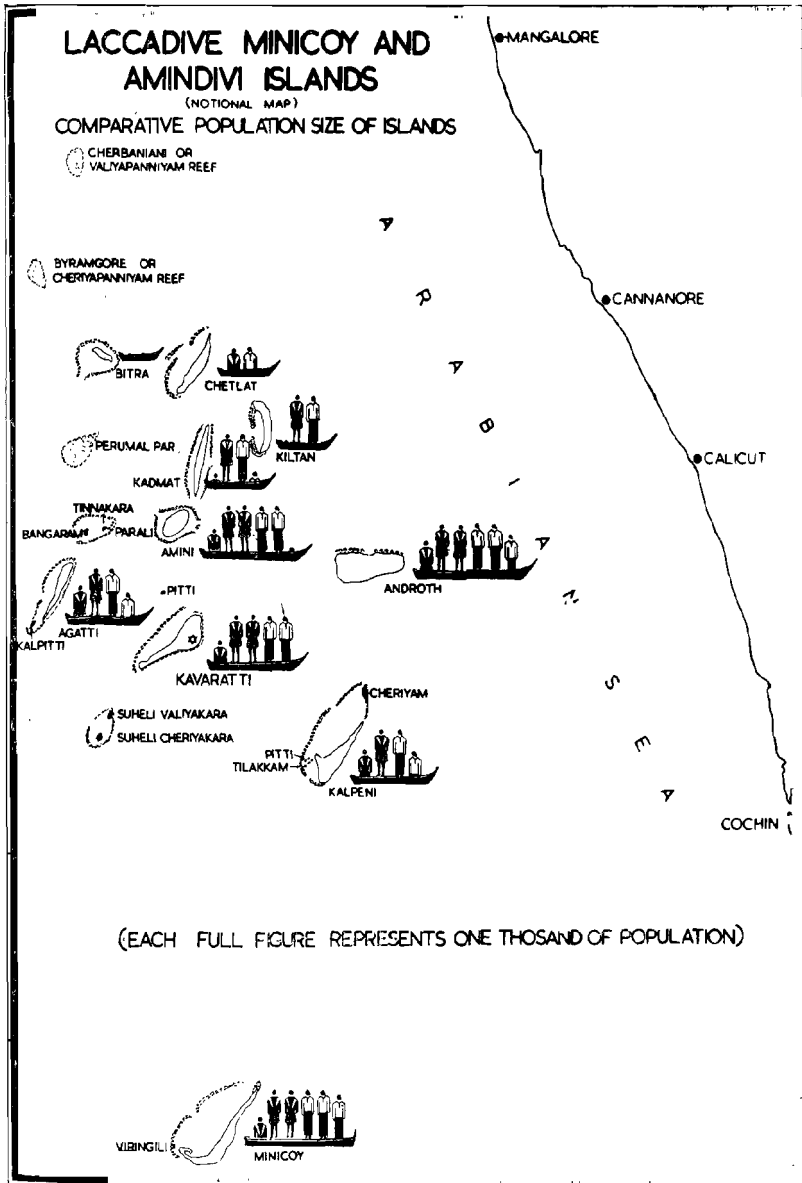
The above table reveals that the largest populated island is Androth and the smallest being Bitra with a population of 112 having equal proportion of males and females. When all the islands are ranked, it has been observed that except Amini, Kavaratti, Kadmat, Kiltan, Chetlat and Bitra, the remaining islands have changed their ranks during the last two decades. The decade 1961-70 has observed a spurt in the growth of population in all the 10 inhabited islands and an unprecedented growth of population specially at Kavaratti (56%) is observed on account of shifting of Headquarters from Calicut to Kavaratti island. The average population of one island is 3181. For smooth functioning of the Administrative machinery, the islands

have been grouped under four tahsils only on the basis of geographical location of the islands. The following statement shows the grouping of the islands and their population:

Tahsil No.	Island grouped	Population (1971)
1	Minicoy	5,342
2	Androth } Kalpeni }	8,577
3	Kavaratti } Agatti }	7,575
4	Amini } Kadmat } Kiltan } Chetlat } Bitra }	10,316

Density of Population:

It is often interesting to workout land people ratio or density of population. It is calculated by dividing the population by the area. Though it is a crude measure, but it helps us to find out the pattern of distribution of population in different regions of a country or a state. According to 1971 census, the density of India is 177 persons per Sq. Km. Among the states, Kerala has highest density (549) followed by West Bengal (504) etc. Among the states and union territories, Delhi has the highest density (2738) followed by Chandigarh (2257), L.M. & A. Islands (994) etc. Arunachal Pradesh has the lowest density (6) on account of its vast mountaineous and snowbound areas. It will be useful to show the density of various states and union territories by ranks.



TABLE

DENSITY OF POPULATION IN THE STATES/UNION
TERRITORIES (ARRANGED IN DESCENDING ORDER
OF DENSITY), 1971

Sl. No.	State/Union Territory	Density
1	2	3
1.	Delhi (U.T.)	2,738
2.	Chandigarh (U.T.)	2,257
3.	Laccadive, Minicoy & Amindivi Islands (U.T.)	994
4.	Pondicherry (U.T.)	983
5.	Kerala	549
6.	West Bengal	504
7.	Bihar	324
8.	Tamil Nadu	317
9.	Uttar Pradesh	300
10.	Punjab	269
11.	Haryana	227
12.	Goa, Daman & Diu (U.T.)	225
13.	Maharashtra	164
14.	Andhra Pradesh	157
15.	Mysore	153
16.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli (U.T.)	151
17.	Assam	150
18.	Tripura	149
19.	Orissa	141
20.	Gujarat	136
21.	Madhya Pradesh	94
22.	Rajasthan	75
23.	Himachal Pradesh	62
24.	Manipur	48
25.	Meghalaya	45

1	2	3
26. Nagaland		31
27. Sikkim		29
28. Jammu & Kashmir		N.A.
29. Andaman & Nicobar Islands (U.T.)		14
30. Arunachal Pradesh (U.T.)		6

NOTE :- The density of Assam is calculated including Mizo district which is now separate U.T. of Mizoram.

U.T.—Union Territory

N.A.—Not available

From the above table we find that our union territory ranks third by density of population. Naturally, one can realise the seriousness of problems of increasing population in relation to the limited land area we do possess. Infact, our union territory being a rural area has already reached a saturation point. The table given below shows the density of our union territory from the year 1901 to 1971.

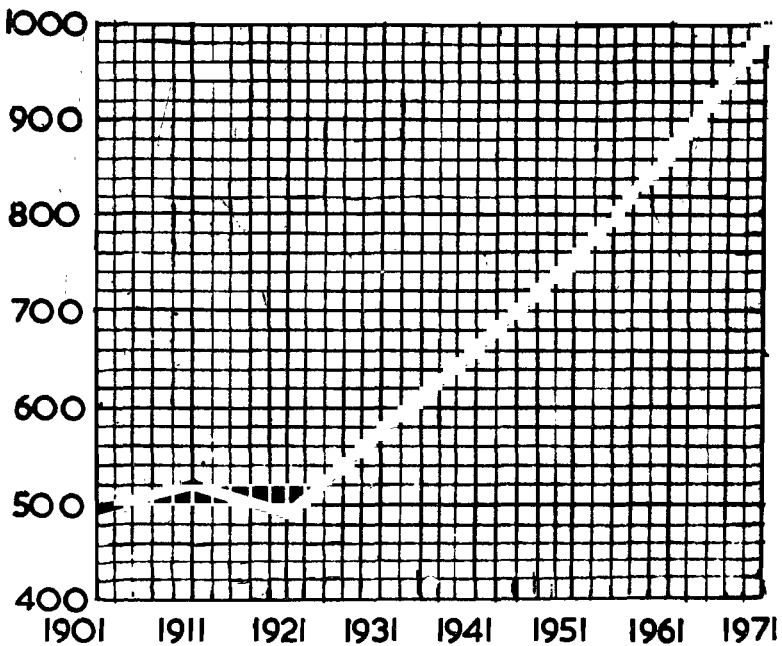
TABLE

Year	1901	1911	1921	1931	1941	1951	1961	1971
Density of L. M. & A. Islands	498	522	489	576	659	755	831	994

In calculating the density of this union territory the areas of the uninhabited islands have also been taken into account. If we would consider the area of inhabited islands only, then you can easily guess the magnitude of the problem relating to land-man ratio. The table above shows that as in other states, density of population in the year 1921 has declined in

20(a)

DENSITY OF POPULATION IN L.M & A. ISLANDS FROM 1901-1971



our union territory and then increased quite fast. The reason for decline in population as well as density during the decade 1911-21 was due to sudden increase in epidemic diseases. It is said to have taken a toll of 12 million lives in the whole country. There were two successive bad seasons and extensive failure of crops coming in the wake of 1914-18 war.

The 548 million population of India as per 1971 Census is distributed in an area of 3.28 million Sq. Kms giving a density of 177 persons per Sq. Kms. Thus, we can say in terms of area that the density of L.M.&A. islands is nearly six times more than that of India.

The area of this union territory (32 Sq. Kms) is so small that neither it can be compared with any state, union territory and even a district of our country nor any other country of the world. Its density is undoubtedly higher than most of the countries of the world. We can get some idea from the table given below about the population, area and density of a few important countries of the world.

TABLE

Country	Population 'Y' ('000)	Area Km ²	Density
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Nigeria	55,074	923,768	60
Kenya	10,898	582,645	19
Mauritius	836	2,045	409
Morocco	15,525	445,050	35
U.A.R.	33,329	1,001,449	33
Canada	21,406	9,976,139	2
Cuba	8,392	114,524	73

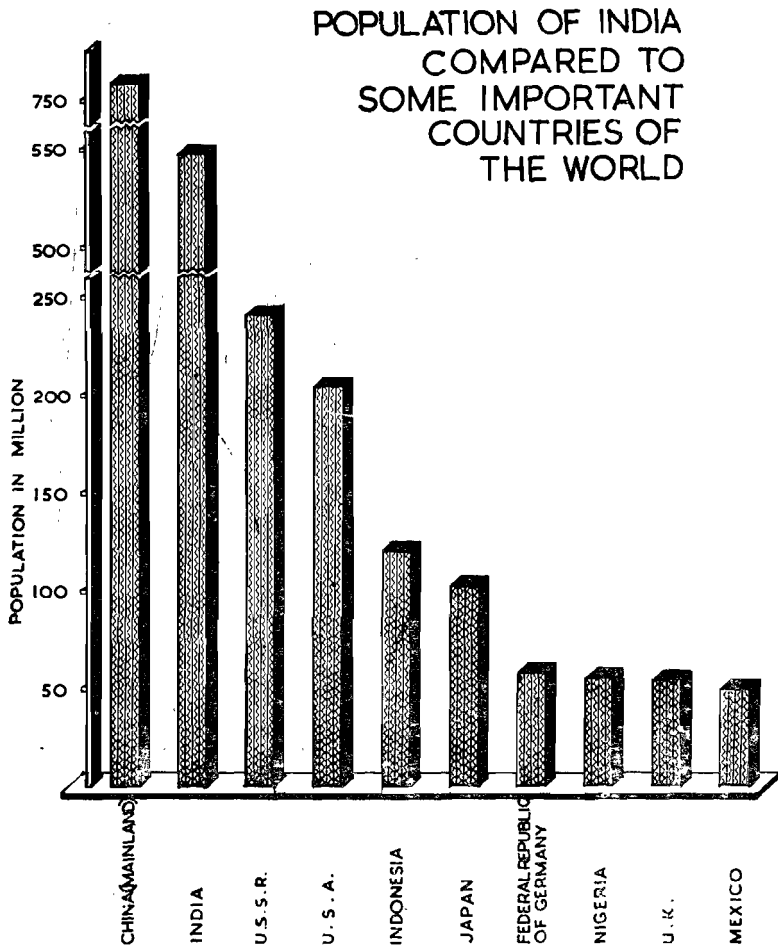
1	2	3	4
Mexico	50,670	1,972,546	26
U.S.A.	205,395	9,363,353	22
Argentina	24,352	2,776,889	9
Venezuela	10,399	912,050	11
Burma	27,584	678,033	41
Sri Lanka	12,514	65,610	191
China (Mainland) . . .	759,619	9,561,000	79
China (Taiwan) . . .	14,035	35,961	390
Indonesia	1,21,198	1,491,564	81
Japan	103,540	369,881	280
Thailand	35,814	514,000	70
France	50,775	547,026	93
Federal Republic of Germany	59,554	247,973	240
German Democratic Republic	16,183	107,771	150
Greece	8,892	131,944	67
Hungary	10,331	93,030	111
Monaco	24	1*	16,107
Poland	32,805	312,677	105
Romania	20,253	237,500	85
Spain	33,290	504,750	66
Portugal	9,630	92,082	105
Italy	53,667	301,225	178
U.K.	55,711	244,044	228
Yugoslavia	20,527	255,804	80
Australia	12,552	7,686,810	2
New Zealand	2,816	268,675	10
U.S.S.R.	242,768	22,402,200	11

'Y' Estimate 1970

*1-49

Source: Table 2 of U.N. Demographic Year Book, 1970

22(a)



Let us now have an idea regarding concentration of our population in different islands. Among all the ten inhabited islands, density of Amini is the highest (1747) followed by Kalpeni (1370). The lowest density is observed in Kadmat island (779). The table given below shows the islandwise distribution of density of population with their ranks during 1961 and 1971 census. Among all the islands, Kavaratti shows abnormal increase in density i.e. from 808 in 1961 to 1228 in 1971.

TABLE
COMPARATIVE STATEMENT SHOWING DENSITY OF
DIFFERENT ISLANDS DURING 1961 AND 1971
WITH THEIR RANKS

Name of Islands	Density in 1961	Rank in 1961	Density in 1971	Rank in 1971
1	2	3	4	5
Amini . . .	1406	1	1747	1
Kalpeni . . .	1313	2	1370	2
Androth . . .	966	3	1130	8
Kiltan . . .	944	4	1279	3
Chetlat . . .	916	5	1200	6
Minicoy . . .	914	6	1214	5
Agatti . . .	861	7	1169	7
Kavaratti . . .	808	8	1228	4
Bitra . . .	800	9	1120	9
Kadmat . . .	611	10	779	10

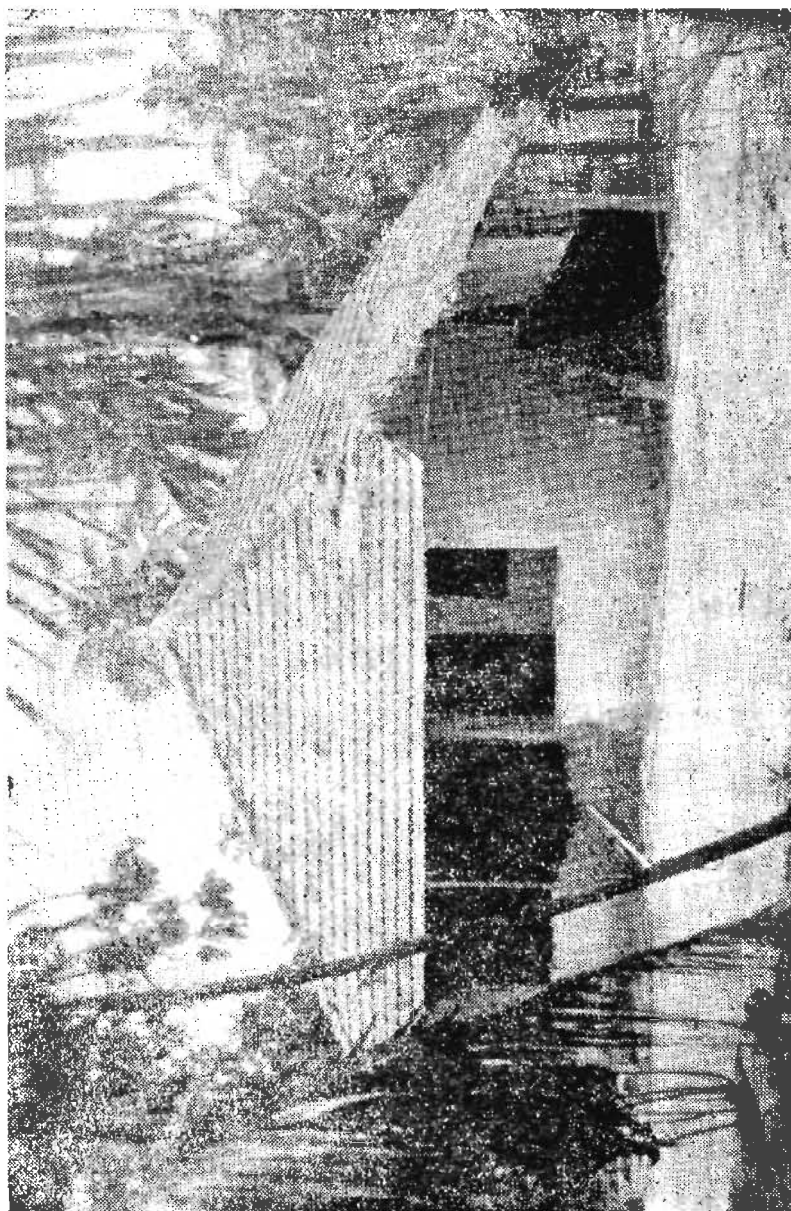
It is generally known that density of a settlement increases when there exists a large concentration of population in industrial centres, large scale business

and trade centres and capital cities as well as areas with good climatic conditions etc. As regards our union territory is concerned, the above factors are, however, not applicable. Here, population settlement of each island is found concentrated in a particular area while the rest of the area is covered with thickly planted coconut trees. Thus density of each island depends on the size of the island only. You may ask the reason for abnormal increase in density of population in almost all the islands. Plausible reasons for increase are due to improved health conditions, high birth rate, decline in death rate, simple way of living and better economic conditions on account of sufficient dividend received from export of copra, coir, and ancillary products to mainland. Thus we see that the density of population in a region is generally a fairly accurate index of the relative prosperity but sometimes it can be a misleading one also. Increase in density is more or less linked with economic conditions of the people living in a particular area. Hence it is possible to say that the density of population be an index of the other co-related factors of a geographical or ecological or sociological significance.

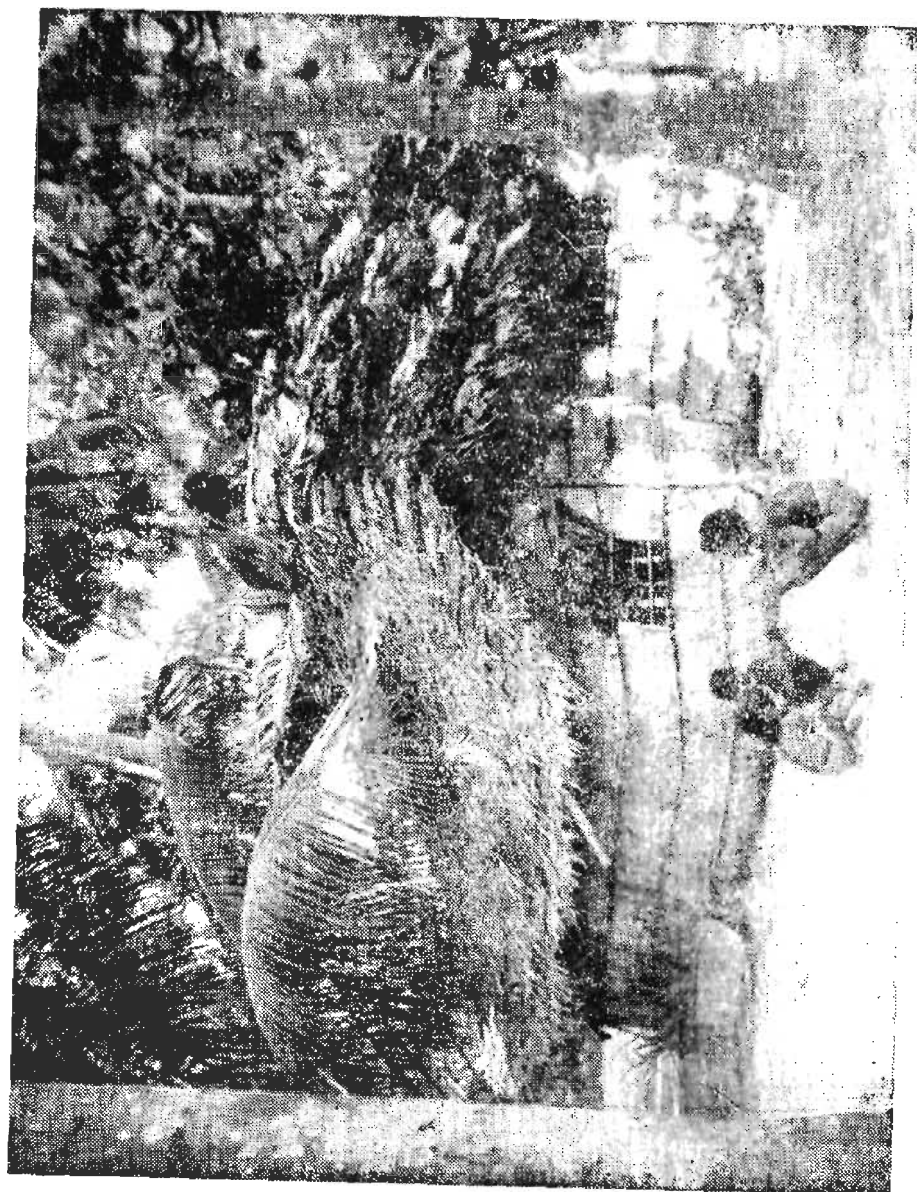
Residential Houses, Households and Size of Households:

After food and clothing, 'a roof over the head' is the essential requirement for human being. Information regarding conditions of housing is collected in our country by the Census Organisation along with the houselisting operations on the eve of conducting census.

There are 5,160 and 5,310 number of residential houses and households respectively as per 1971 Census of this union territory. The average size of household works out to be 5.99 for the union territory as a whole. The table given below shows the average size of household for each island.



A middle class house



A residential hut made of plaited coconut leaves.

TABLE
AVERAGE SIZE OF HOUSEHOLD

Name of island	No. of residen- tial houses	No. of house- holds	Average size of house- hold
1	2	3	4
L.M. & A ISLANDS	5160	5310	5.99
Minicoy	916	930	5.74
Kalpeni	483	529	5.96
Androth	809	883	6.14
Agatti	470	473	6.67
Kavaratti	766	768	5.76
Amini	654	659	6.89
Kadmat	409	413	5.85
Kiltan	354	356	5.75
Chetlat	267	267	4.49
Bitra	32	32	3.50

The average size of household of this union territory is as high as in most of the other states in India. Among the islands Amini has the highest number of persons per household (i.e. 6.89) and Bitra has the least (i.e. 3.50).

A 'Census House' is a building or part of a building having a separate main entrance from the road or common courtyard or stair case etc. used or recognised as separate unit. It may be inhabited or vacant. It may be used for residential or non-residential purposes or both. An 'occupied residential house' is a census house occupied by one or more census households and includes a shop-cum-residence, a workshop-cum-residence and a residence with other use. Even where more

than one household occupies one census house it is considered as only one occupied residential house. A household is a group of persons who commonly live together and would take their meals from a common kitchen unless the exigencies of work prevented any of them from doing so.

Taking all the islands together, the number of persons per occupied residential houses comes to 6.16. Amini has the highest number (i.e. 6.94) and Bitra being the least (i.e. 3.50). The statement below gives the percentage households to the number of census houses for the union territory and the islands.

TABLE

Union Territory/ Island	Percentage of households to number of houses
Laccadive, Minicoy and Amindivi Islands	102.91
Minicoy	101.53
Kalpeni	109.52
Androth	109.15
Agatti	100.64
Kavaratti	100.26
Amini	100.76
Kadmat	100.98
Kiltan	100.56
Chetlat	100.00
Bitra	100.00

The above table shows that the system of sharing a house by several households is not very popular in LM&A islands and the people prefer to live separately in their own house. The average size of a household has slightly increased from 5.91 in 1961 to 5.99 in 1971.

An institutional household is a household where unrelated persons stay together such as Boarding house, Hostel, Hotel etc. The following statement shows the number of institutional population in each island.

TABLE
INSTITUTIONAL POPULATION

Union Territory/ Island	Institutional population			
	No. of house- holds	Persons	Males	Females
1	2	3	4	5
LACCADIVE, MINICOY AND AMINDIVI ISLANDS	176	823	766	57
Minicoy	59	186	184	2
Kalpeni	1	33	..	33
Androth	19	63	61	2
Agatti	6	12	12	..
Kavaratti	62	315	300	15
Amini	19	167	167	..
Kadmat	1	7	5	2
Kiltan	4	21	21	..
Chetlat	5	19	16	3
Bitra	..	..	..	..

The houseless population is comprised of all those who have no house to live in and also persons who having a residence have been enumerated, while in transit. There are only two households of this type consisting of 11 members of Kavaratti whom were all enumerated in the ship. The total number of institutional population comes to 823 for the union territory as a whole

out of which 766 are males and 57 are females. Kavaratti has the maximum institutional population viz. 315 and Kadmat has the least viz. 7. Bitra has no institutional population at all. The major part of the institutional households consists of Students Hostels, C.R.P. Camps and Lodgings.

Growth Rate of Population

Population is a dynamic variable in the sense that it is constantly changing overtime. Births and deaths are the two biological processes by which change of population takes place incessantly over the years. Another factor of increase in population is migration. This is mainly important when it takes place between Rural—Urban or Urban—Urban, or Urban—Rural or Rural—Rural in a particular region. International migration is, however, not significant in India. Thus, India's population growth has been influenced only by its fertility and mortality trends.

The population of the world is spontaneously increasing day by day. Experts who have studied these problems, say that till about 2000 years ago the population of the entire world was probably around 250 million i.e. less than half of the size of the current population of India. This total itself took hundreds of thousand of years to build, based on a small positive growth rate.

TABLE
POPULATION OF THE WORLD AT SELECTED YEARS

Years							Estimated world population (millions)
A.D. 1	.	.	.	.	.	.	250
1650	.	.	.	.	.	.	565
1830	.	.	.	.	.	.	1000
1925	.	.	.	.	.	.	2000
1960	.	.	.	.	.	.	3008
1970	.	.	.	.	.	.	3632
2000	.	.	.	.	.	.	6500

One would naturally wonder at the causes for this spectacular growth, where it all leads to and how does this fit into the world situation. This phenomenal increase in the growth rate during a short period of little over 300 years from 0.04% to 2% was due to sudden fall in the death rate, observed in the developed countries over the last 150 years or so and in the developing countries during the last two or three decades. This has been possible on account of industrialisation, development of Public Health and Sanitation measures aided by advances in modern medicines particularly antibiotics. The world population in 1970 was estimated to be 3632 million. During the period 1965-1970, the annual growth rate was 2 percent. It is clear that if the current growth rate of 2% continues unabated in future also, the world population would be double itself in another 35 years or so raising it to a level of over 7000 million. The United Nation has made three projections viz. High, Medium and low by 2000 AD. These are respectively 6994 millions, 6130 millions and 5440 millions. The reasons for the acceleration in the growth rate of population in India is not very different from those for the rest of the world. The table given below is self explanatory.

TABLE
POPULATION, BIRTH RATE, DEATH RATE AND
EXPECTATION OF LIFE AT BIRTH, INDIA 1901-1971

Year	Popula- tion (in 000's)	Annual geometric growth rate (%)	Birth rate	Death rate*	Expec- tation of life at birth
1	2	3	4	5	6
1901 ·	238,337	..	..	..	..
1911 ·	252,005	0.56	49.2	42.6	22.9
1921 ·	251,239	0.03	48.1†	47.2†	20.1†

1	2	3	4	5	6
1931 ·	278,867	1·05	46·4	36·3	26·8
1941 ·	318,539	1·34	45·2†	31·2†	31·8†
1951 ·	360,950	1·26	39·9	27·4	32·5
1961 ·	437,073	1·98	40·9	22·0	41·9
1971 ·	@547,368	2·21	36·9**	14·9**	††47·0

*By reverse survival method

†Estimated by Kingsley Davies

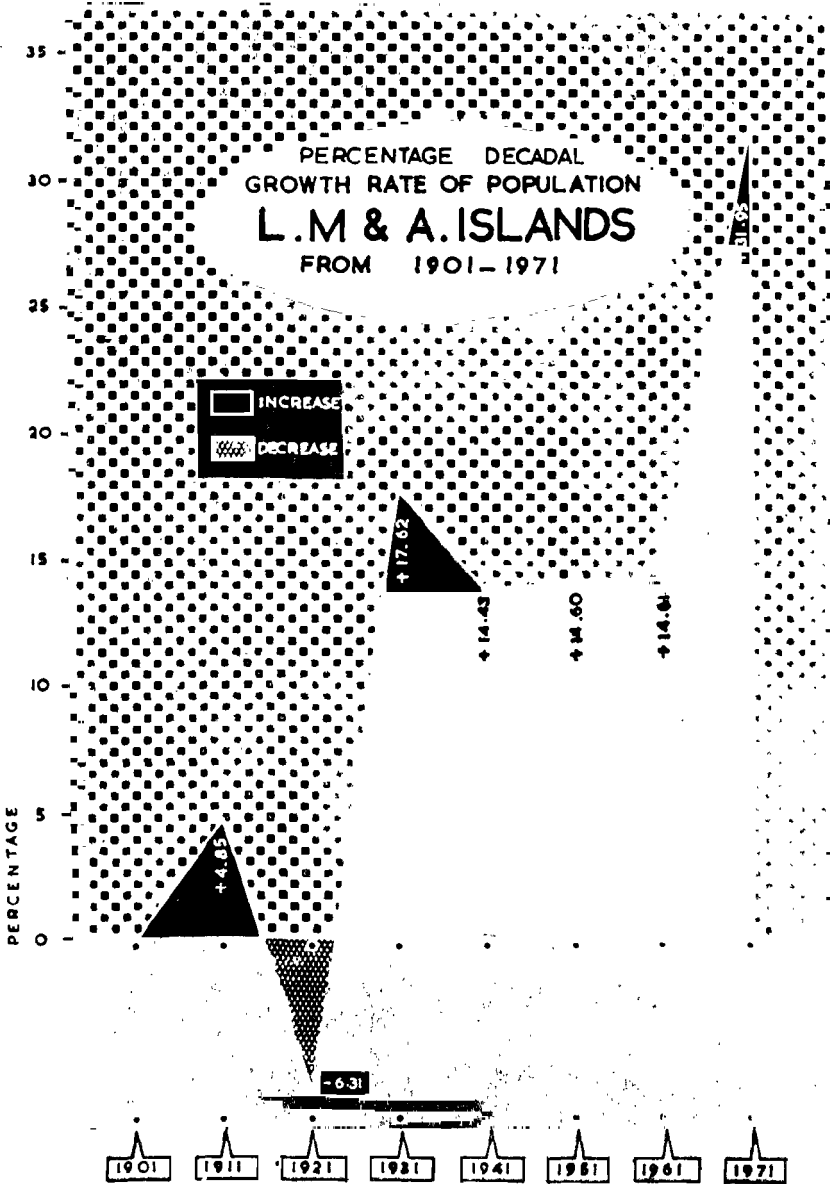
**As per SRS

††Based on 1 % sample data of 1971 Census.

Excluding Sikkin.

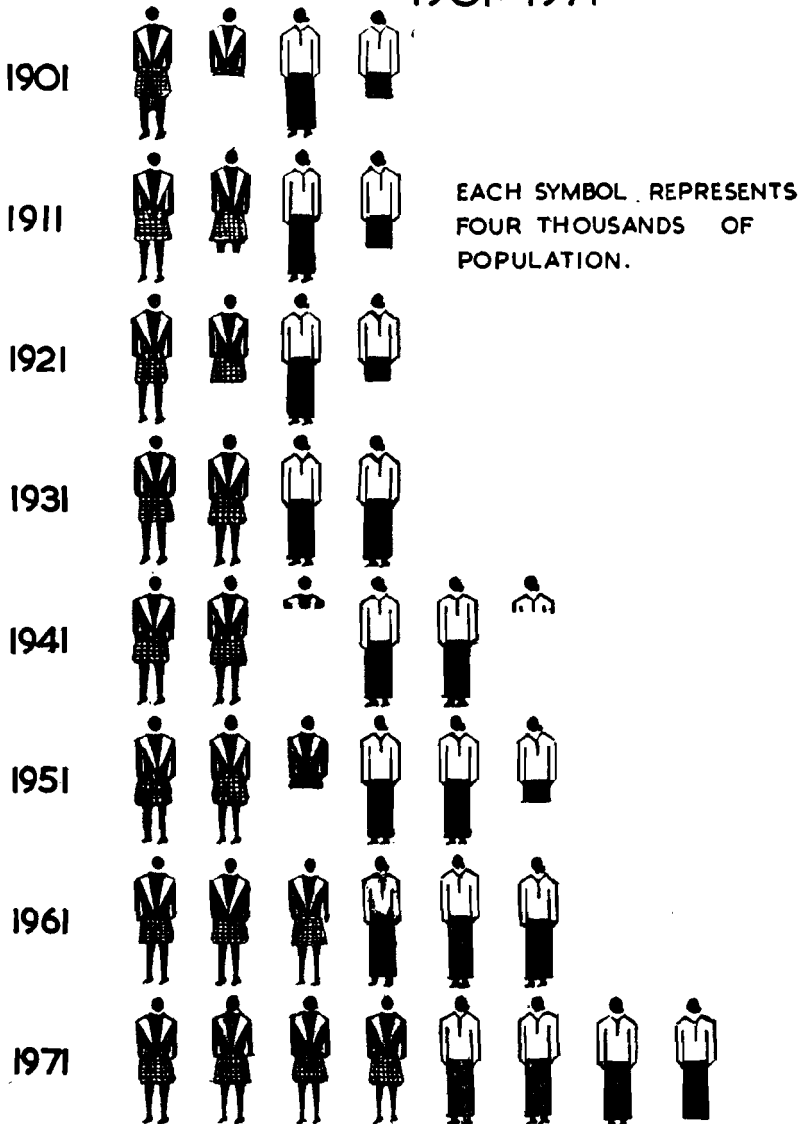
The population increased slowly at first and then rapidly. It has been estimated that India's population was about 100 million in 300 B.C and only 194 millions in 1867 A.D. We have a fairly accurate idea about the size of the population of our country only after taking up regular census in India from 1881. Annual arithmetic growth rate of population of India for the period 1961-71 is calculated as 2.48 percent whereas the growth rate calculated for the same period on the principle of compound interest is 2.23%. However, the population will go on increasing unless there is a check measure on the increase of birth rate. The literature shows that several attempts have been made by the demographers and fiction writers to estimate what will be the population in 2000 AD. As stated above, since the population is a dynamic variable, growth of population continues unabated unless and otherwise there is barring disasters beyond human control.

We know the unit of time for the measurement of population in India is ten years. Now we have completed 100 years after 1872. The data for the years



GROWTH OF POPULATION IN L.M & A ISLANDS

1901-1971



1872 and 1881 are not comparable to the future decades. The population in 1891 was estimated as 235 million. The following table gives the decennial percentage variation of population of India and Lakshadweep from the period 1901 to 1971:

TABLE
COMPARATIVE STATEMENT SHOWING PERCENTAGE
DECADE VARIATION IN POPULATION OF INDIA AND
L.M.&A. ISLANDS FROM 1901 to 1971

Year	Population of India	Percentage decadal variation	Population of L.M.&A. Islands	Percentage decadal variation
1	2	3	4	5
1901	238,396,327		13,882	
1911	252,093,390	+5.75	14,555	+4.85
1921	251,321,213	-0.31	13,637	-6.31
1931	278,977,238	+11.00	16,040	+17.62
1941	318,660,580	+14.22	18,355	+14.43
1951	361,088,090	+13.31	21,035	+14.60
1961	439,234,771	+21.51	24,108	+14.61
1971	548,159,652	+24.80	31,810	+31.95

From the above table, it is seen that India's population has increased by 13 million from 1901 to 1921 whereas for the period 1921-30, an increase of 27 million of population has been observed. Further, the birth rate had remained high in all the years with only a slight fluctuation and even after 1921 it dropped slightly. Prior to 1921, the death rates remained very high which infact started decreasing progressively due to improvement of transport, medical facilities and sanitation. This has widened the gap between birth rate and death rate resulting accelerated growth of

population of the whole country. An Expert Committee set up by the Government of India under the supervision of the Registrar General, India made population projection for India. Accordingly, the estimated population of India by medium assumption in 1976 would be 605.6 million, 663.3 million in 1981, 724.5 million in 1986, 786.3 million in 1991, 853.8 million 1996 and 924.3 million in 2001.

The population of this territory was increasing right from 1901 except during 1911-21 which had shown a decline in population same as India as a whole. During 1921 to 1931 the increase was 17.62%. Thereafter the growth rate of this union territory was uniform upto 1961 and that of India was more or less steady upto 1941 but during 1951-61 a sudden spurt in growth rate has been observed (21.51%) probably due to the effect of partition of the subcontinent. The last decade (1961-71) records an abnormal growth of population in our union territory which is higher than that of all India. The annual growth rate is 3.2% as against 2.5% in India. Among the States and union territories L.M.&A. Islands ranks 11th in this respect and if only union territories are taken into account this territory ranks to 6th which were the 25th and 9th respectively in 1961 Census.

The abnormal growth can not be explained as purely biological reasons. As already explained earlier, consequent on the shifting of the Head Quarters of the union territory from Calicut to Kavaratti island, a number of Offices have sprung up in the islands resulting an increase in population. The reduction in mortality rate has also contributed to the population increase.

Fertility, mortality and migration are the three factors of so called components determining the growth

of population of a place. The first two are the natural biological process which go on incessantly at every instant. The difference between the number of births and deaths is defined as natural increase. As regards our union territory is concerned, internal migration of temporary nature on account of shifting of Administration offices from mainland has some impact on the growth of population.

Registration of births and deaths started under the Laccadive islands and Minicoy Regulation 1912 in the Laccadive Islands and Minicoy (Viz. Minicoy, Kalpeni, Androth, Agalti and Kavaratti) and under the Madras and Births and Deaths Registration Act of 1889 in the Amindivi Group islands (Viz. Amini, Kadmat, Kiltan, Chetlat and Bitra). No rules however, been framed under these acts. The Registration of birth and death act 1969 (18 of 1969) was enforced in L.M.&A. Islands with effect from 1-4-70 under the supervision of Director of Medical and Health Services. The Administration of this union territory framed rules (The L.M.&A. Islands Registration of births and deaths Rules 1970) which was forced with effect from 1-7-70. The following statement gives the crude birth rate and death rate of this union territory as per the Civil Registration.

TABLE

Year*	Crude Birth rate (rate per annum per 1000 population)	Crude Death rate (rate per annum per 1000 population)
1	2	3
1964 . .	40.4	13.5
1965 . .	38.7	12.8
1966 . .	44.2	14.5

1	2	3
1967 . .	43.3	14.7
1968 . .	40.4	12.1
1969 . .	N.A.	N.A.
1970 . .	34.1	11.9
1971 . .	N.A.	N.A.
1972 . .	35.5	13.0
1973 . .	36.0	11.0

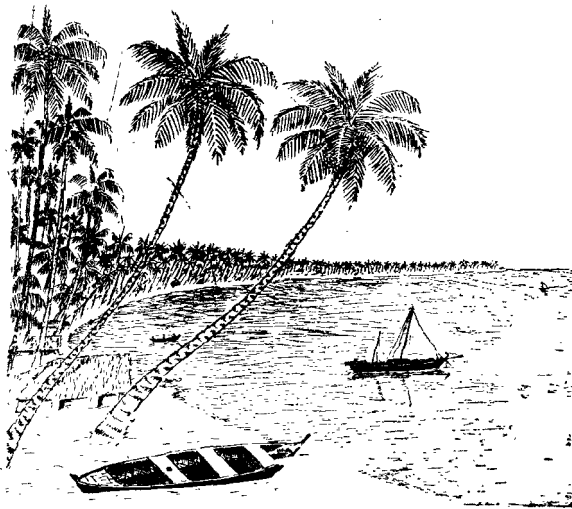
*Data for the years 1969 and 1971 are not available.

Since 1971 a pilot scheme called Sample Registration System has been launched in these islands. Registration of births and deaths are carried out in selected Sample Blocks. This is expected to give accurate information of the natural occurrence of the events. The estimated annual live birth rate and death rate on the basis of Sample Registration Scheme are shown below :—

ESTIMATED ANNUAL LIVE BIRTH RATE AND DEATH RATE IN INDIA AND L.M.&A. ISLANDS 1971-1975 (RATES BASED ON SRS DATA OF CONTINUOUS ENUMERATION AND SIX MONTHLY CROSS CHECK SURVEY).

Year	Crude birth rate per 1000 population		Crude death rate per 1000 population	
	India	Lakshadweep	India	Lakshadweep
1971 . .	36.9	32.5	14.9	15.7
1972 . .	36.6	37.2	16.9	17.1
1973 . .	34.6	37.9	15.5	10.7
1974 . .	34.5	37.9	14.5	10.9
1975 . .	35.2	40.1	15.9	15.0

Owing to the special location as well as extremely limited space, people from the rest of India are normally not encouraged to settle down here permanently. However, during the last two decades 478 and 1881 persons respectively came to this union territory as Govt. employees of Union Territory Administration on purely temporary basis. Since the impact of migration will be negligible in the coming years, hence the growth of population will be mainly based on the natural increase of population i.e. birth-death. From the above table, it is observed that the pattern of growth of population for the next few years in our union territory will be of quasi stable type.



CHAPTER III

VILLAGE DWELLERS AND TOWN DWELLERS

The distinction between a village dweller and a town dweller is important since urbanisation has become an accepted essential of progress. It is customary to divide population at a census of every country into two broad categories viz. rural and urban. Here we will consider the rural population of those who are living in the villages and urban population of those living in towns and cities. Generally, rural society presents sharp contrasts in economic, social and cultural set up compared to an urban area. Infact, towns serve as the centres for the spread of knowledge, education and technology and influence the growth and socio-economic life of the areas around. Further, size and growth of urban population is considered as an indicator of economic change. On the other hand, it does sometimes happen that some urban centres develop merely as parasites on the country side on which they depend for sustenance but to which they give back nothing. It will therefore, be necessary to study the process of urbanisation closely. Prior to going in details of the process of urbanisation in India, we must know the definition of an urban area. Unfortunately, there exists no uniform criterion for distinguishing urban area from rural area in our country till the census of 1951. Since conditions vary between state to state, it has not been possible to formulate a uniform definition which can be applicable to all. The size of the settlement is the most universal definition of an urban area. In Indian census, local authorities were given discretionary power to choose a particular settlement as urban area. In view of the increasing importance of

studying urbanisation, the then Census Commissioner of 1961 Census made an effort by strictly defining the concept of "town". United Nations have defined urban population as a population living in a locality of 20,000 or more inhabitants. This may not, however, be appropriate under the Indian circumstances.

The definition of 'urban' as adopted in 1971 Census of India is as follows: —

1. All places where there is a Municipal Corporation or a Municipality or a Town Committee or a Notified Area or a Cantonment Board have been treated as urban area.
2. The remaining places which satisfied the following conditions were declared as urban area :
 - (a) The estimated population at 1971 Census should be at least 5,000.
 - (b) At least 75 per cent of male working population is non-agricultural.
 - (c) The density of population per sq. Km. should not be below 400.
 - (d) In the opinion of the Director of Census Operations, any other place where predominant urban characteristics are noticed.

The above approach in distinguishing rural from urban in India is quite scientific and realistic. With this background and in view of the fact that India is having a predominantly agricultural economy, it is not surprising that a preponderant proportion (80%) of the population of India lives in rural areas. As compared to other countries of the world, we are lagging

behind with only 20% of our population living in urban areas. This shows very slow progress in industrialisation in our country. The early towns in our country were commercial or administrative centres but with the advent of western civilization, the modern towns and cities are more industrialised, full of business activities as well as with high density of population having cosmopolitan society. In India, besides industrial expansion and increase in trade and commerce facilities in urban areas, lack of employment due to growing pressure on limited available land in rural areas has also pushed out many unskilled village workers to towns and cities resulting growth of population.

It will be quite interesting if we compare proportion of urban population in some countries of the world with that of India. The percentage of urban population to total population of U.K. (78.4), Canada (73.6), France (70.0), U.S.A. (69.9), Japan (68.1), U.S.S.R. (56.3) and U.A.R. (42.1) is very high compared to India, whereas that of Pakistan and Ceylon are 13.1 and 19.1 respectively.

The most urbanised state in India is Maharashtra (31.17%) closely followed by Tamil Nadu (30.26%), Gujarat (28.08%), West Bengal (24.75%) etc. The least urbanised state is Himachal Pradesh (6.99%). The union territory of Delhi and Chandigarh are almost of entirely urban whereas union territory of L.M.&A. Islands and Dadra & Nagar Haveli have no urban area. The table given below shows the percentage of urban population to the total population as per 1971 Census.

TABLE

State/Union Territory	Percentage of urban population to total population, 1971.
India	19·91
Andhra Pradesh	19·31
Assam*	8·87
Bihar	10·00
Gujarat	28·08
Haryana	17·66
Himachal Pradesh	6·99
Jammu & Kashmir	18·59
Kerala	16·24
Madhya Pradesh	16·29
Maharashtra	31·17
Manipur	13·19
Meghalaya	14·55
Mysore	24·31
Nagaland	9·95
Orissa	8·41
Punjab	23·73
Rajasthan	17·63
Sikkim	9·37
Tamil Nadu	30·26
Tripura	10·43
Uttar Pradesh	14·02
West Bengal	24·75
<i>Union Territories</i>	
Delhi	89·70
Goa, Daman and Diu	26·44
Chandigarh	90·55
Pondicherry	42·04
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	22·77
Arunachal Pradesh	3·70

*Includes Mizo district which now forms the Union Territory of Mizoram.

Industrialisation is the main component of greater concentration of population in urban centres. In India there are in all about 2,643 urban units out of which 148 are class I towns. The table given below reveals the distribution of urban units by size classes as per 1971 Census for all India.

Country	Size-class of urban units	Minimum required population	Number of towns	Number of urban Agglomeration	Number of population in town and urban Agglomeration	Percentage of population to total urban and urban agglomeration of India 1971
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
India	All	Classes...	2,304	339	109,113,977	100
	I	100,000 & above	61	87	60,911,212	56
	II	50,000 to 99,999	126	57	12,344,959	11
	III	20,000 to 49,999	496	86	17,803,808	16
	IV	10,000 to 19,999	818	56	12,347,769	11
	V	5,000 to 9,999	627	51	5,142,033	5
	VI	Less than 5,000	176	2	564,196	1

One interesting feature to be noted from the above table is that 56% of the urban dwellers of India live in the 148 class I towns. This is infact an uneven pattern

of distribution of our urban population. Only 5% of urban population live in the class V towns having 678 urban units.

Another special feature regarding urbanisation in the 1971 Census is the introduction of a new concept viz. Urban Agglomeration. Past experiences show that the areas around Municipal limit or Notified Area council etc. develop certain urban characteristics. The entire place beyond the urban limit assures the look and character of one big town and such kind of areas may not be big enough to be recognised as separate towns in their own right. In order to avoid such confusion, Social Scientists and Town Planners etc. after deep thought decided to tag all such areas on to the main town. The core town alongwith the urban spread could be taken in that case as single urban unit which is called Urban Agglomeration.

In order to go into the insight of the problem of the process of urbanisation, the office of the Registrar General, India has initiated the survey of 200 small towns to study the interaction of the urban and rural life. These surveys when completed, are expected to provide an authentic picture of the role of the towns play in the socio-economic progress of society.

Standard Urban Area (SUA) is another new concept introduced in 1971 Census. Urban agglomeration constitutes a contiguous urban spread over certain adjoining areas with well recognised urban characteristics. The standard urban area is a long term projection. Its limit spreads well beyond the urban agglomeration to a limit up to which contiguous urbanisation is reasonably expected to take place in the next about 3 decades. The Standard Urban Area will then remain as a statistical reporting unit during the next three successive census irrespective of the changes in the boundaries.

As per 1971 Census of India, rural area should generally follow the limits of a revenue village that is recognised by the normal district Administration. The revenue village needs not be a single agglomeration of the habitation but it has a definite surveyed boundary and each village is a separate administrative unit with separate village accounts.

As regards our union territory is concerned, no urban unit is existing and hence the entire Lakshadweep is treated as rural area. For the purpose of census each inhabited island is taken as the ultimate unit in lieu of village. The average size of population of an island comes to be 3,181. However, the size of the population of the islands varies from 112 to 5425. The following statement shows the percentage of population living in the islands of various population size with reference to the total population of the union territory in 1971

TABLE

Union Territory	Less than 200	200-499	500-1999	2000-4999	5000-9999	10.000 & above
L.M.&A. Islands	0.35	..	3.77	62.03	33.85	..

The area of an island varies from 0.1 to 4.8 Sq. Kms. Since all the islands are lying scattered in the Arabian Sea, it is not possible to take population or area as a norm for the village. Hence only natural boundary of each island is considered as the village area for the purpose of census. The table given below shows the name of islands by population size as per 1971 census.

TABLE

Size class of population	Name of island
Less than 200	Bitra
200-499	..
500-1999	Chetlat
2000-4999	Amini, Kavaratti, Agatti, Kalpeni, Kadmat & Kiltan
5000-9999	Androth and Minicoy
10,000 & above	Nil

It is seen from the above table that a large number of islands come under the population size class of 2000-4999 which infact constitute 62% of the population. There is no island having population more than 6,000. It appears that the differential in size of population is due to its topography, availability of suitable land, caste and customs etc. The natives of this union territory are Muslims and all of them are treated as one scheduled tribe. The peculiarity of the social set up is the division of the people in each island into various classes viz. Koyas, Malmis and Melacheris in Laccadive group of islands; Manikfans, Thakrus and Raveris in Minicoy island and Tarward, Tanakampranavar, Kudiatas and Melacheris in Amini. In Minicoy, there is some distinction in case of their dress, manners and customs from other islands.

Though the entire union territory of Lakshadweep is treated as rural area, however, one can see urban characteristics in some islands. The density of all the islands are so high that it can be compared with any town of India. The settlement pattern and location of the houses of each island are found clustered round

a particular part of the island and the rest is left out as coconut growing areas. The islands like Kavaratti and Minicoy have some facilities like small town of the mainland, but these are not declared as towns as they could not fulfil census criteria of becoming a town.



CHAPTER IV

ARE THE NUMBER OF MEN AND WOMEN BALANCED? HOW OLD ARE WE?

Sex-ratio is defined by the Indian censuses as the number of females per 1,000 males as against the united Nations practice of defining sex-ratio by the number of males per 1,000 females. It is usually expected that the number of men and women are equal in all times and places. Hence any serious imbalance between the two sexes may create several social problems. When we go through the census figures, we usually find that the number of males and females are not only unequal but also the extent of inequality is different in different parts of the country and also within different sections of the population belonging to the same area. The sex-ratio of the Indian population has always been adverse to females. There were only 972 females per 1000 males in 1901. There exists large variation in sex-ratio in different regions of the world. Males are found in excess in India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Canada etc., whereas the females are in excess in Japan, United Kingdom, U.S.A. etc. Table below shows the sex-ratio of India from 1901-1971.

TABLE
SEX RATIO 1901-'71

Census Year	Sex-ratio (Females/ 0000 males)
1901	972
1911	964
1921	955
1931	950
1941	945
1951	946
1961	941
1971	930

The paucity of females has widened over the years culminating in a ratio of 930 females per 1000 males in 1971. It is generally expected that the sex-ratio of a closed population should normally be nearer to 1,000. A number of plausible reasons for the imbalance in the sex-ratio of the population suggest themselves:

- (a) a sex-ratio at birth grossly favourable to males;
- (b) relatively larger extent of omission of females in Indian Censuses;
- (c) more adverse mortality conditions for females compared to males;
- (d) the marked preference for sons and the consequence of neglect of female infants;
- (e) the adverse impact of frequent and excessive child bearing on the health of women.

The sex-ratio may be disturbed by war due to selective mortality but it may not be applicable to India as she did not so far involve herself in any major conflict in recent past. Migration at all-India level is so small compared to the very large population involved that it has no effect on the sex-ratio. This may have some effect at the state level. The sex ratio in Assam is, for example, affected by the immigration of coolie labour into the state for work on the tea plantations. Big cities have a small proportion of women due to the immigration of male workers from outside. In general, sex-ratio is found favourable towards female in rural areas than in urban areas. Just as the general birth rates and death rates vary from time to time, so also do the rates for the two sexes separately. Some conditions are more adverse to females and

others to males and the relative mortality varies accordingly. Besides above, the past census reports of India tried to trace the possible reasons for higher female mortality and these are given below:

- (a) female infanticide
- (b) a comparatively greater neglect of female especially at the earlier ages.
- (c) premature co-habitation and child bearing coupled with unskilful midwifery.
- (d) hardwork in the case of lower classes and
- (e) general conditions of climate, nutrition, house accommodation and the like.

The table given below shows sex-ratios of different States and union territories of India for the last three decades with their ranks.

TABLE
SEX RATIO OF ALL INDIA, STATES AND UNION
TERRITORIES WITH RANKS FOR THE YEAR
1971, 1961 AND 1951

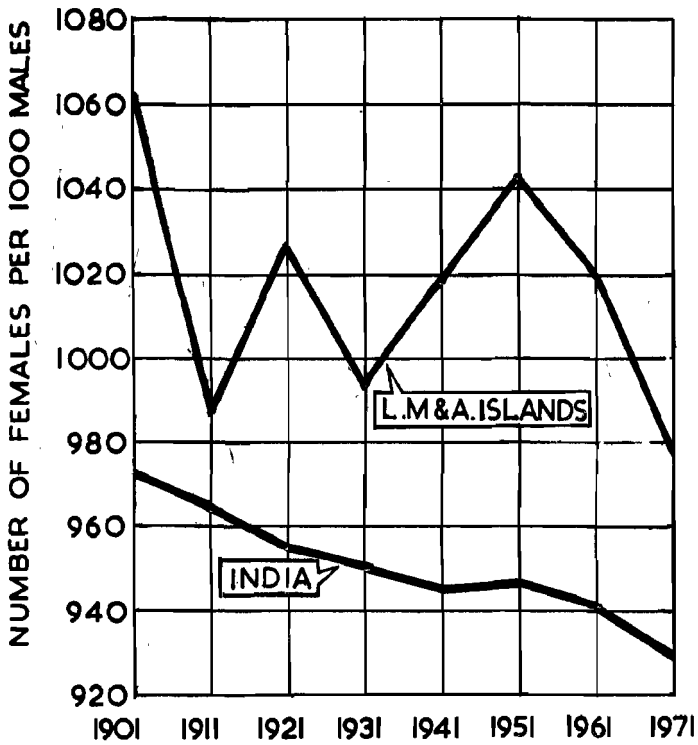
Name of States/Uni- on Territories	Sex ratio 1971	Rank 1971	Sex Ratio 1961	Rank 1961	Sex ratio 1951	Rank 1951
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
INDIA	930		941		946	
Kerala	1016	1	1022	2	1028	5
Dadra & Nagar Ha- veli	1007	2	963	10	*946	15
Goa, Daman & Diu	989	3	1071	1	1128*	1
Pondicherry	989	3	1013	5	@1030	4

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Orissa .	988	4	1001	6	1022	6
Manipur .	980	5	1015	4	1036	3
L.M.&A.						
Islands .	978	6	1020	3	1043	2
Tamil Nadu	978	6	992	8	1007	7
Andhra Pradesh .	977	7	981	9	986	10
Himachal Pradesh .	958	8	938	14	912	18
Mysore .	957	9	959	11	966	12
Bihar .	954	10	994	7	990	9
Tripura .	943	11	932	18	904	21
Meghalaya	942	12	937	15	949	14
Madhya Pradesh	941	13	953	12	967	11
Gujarat .	934	14	940	13	952	13
Maharashtra	930	15	936	16	941	16
Rajasthan	911	16	908	20	921	17
Assam .	897	17	872	24	871	23
West Bengal .	891	18	878	23	865	24
Uttar Pradesh	879	19	909	19	910	19
Jammu & Kashmir	878	20	878	23	873	22
Nagaland .	871	21	933	17	999	8
Haryana	867	22	868	25	871	23
Punjab .	865	23	854	26	844	25
Sikkim .	863	24	904	21	907	20
Arunachal Pradesh	861	25	894	22	N.A.	N.A.
Delhi .	801	26	785	27	768	27
Chandigarh	749	27	652	28	781	26
Andaman & Nicobar Islands .	644	28	617	29	625	28

*Relates to the year 1950

@Relates to the year 1948

SEX RATIO, 1901-1971



Though, there is gradual decline in sex ratio from 1951 to 1971, Kerala State has been able to improve her rank from 5th position in 1951 to 2nd position in 1961 and 1st position in 1971. It is well known that men from Kerala migrate in large numbers to other areas for business and employment as a consequence of which the sex-ratio in the state is in favour of females. Both in 1951 and 1961 censuses, sex-ratio of Goa, Daman and Diu ranked 1st but her rank went down to 3rd in 1971 Census. As regards as our union territory is concerned the sex ratio has gone down from 2nd rank in 1951 to 3rd rank in 1961 to 6th rank in 1971. Among the states and union territories, Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Himachal Pradesh, Tripura Assam, West Bengal, Delhi and Andaman & Nicobar Islands have improved their sex-ratio during the last three decades. The remaining states and union territories have shown declining trend in sex-ratio. The following table shows the pattern of changes in sex-ratio in our union territory in the form of time series.

TABLE

Union Territory	1971	1961	1951	1941	1931	1921	1911	1901
L.M.&A. Islands	978	1020	1043	1018	994	1027	987	1063

Examination of the sex-ratio of this union territory reveals that males are in excess over females during 1911, 1931 and 1971. In all other censuses the females outnumber males. The lowest sex-ratio during the last 70 years is observed in 1971 Census. The reason for decline in sex-ratio in 1971 is due to shifting of the union territory's Head Quarters from Calicut to Kavaratti as well as transfer of staff from the mainland to islands. Consequent upon planned development activities in various spheres which lead to the

arrival of many male migrants of temporary kind resulting unbalanced sex-ratio. This can be justified from the fact that the sex-ratio of the local scheduled tribe population in 1971 was 1021 which compares with the sex-ratio of 1020 of the Union Territory in 1961. The table given below shows the inter island variations of sex-ratio during the Censuses of 1961 and 1971 respectively:

TABLE
ISLAND-WISE DISTRIBUTION OF SEX-RATIO FOR
1961 AND 1971 CENSUSES

Name of Islands	Sex-ratio in 1961	Sex-ratio in 1971
Minicoy . .	1,307	1,196
Kalpeni . .	974	1,019
Androth . .	1,045	1,033
Agatti . .	903	907
Kavaratti . .	954	810
Amini . .	870	869
Kadmat . .	1,030	1,027
Kiltan . .	995	945
Chetlat . .	1,122	1,034
Bitra . .	702	1,000

Though for the Union Territory as a whole, sex-ratio is in favour of males in 1971, but the same is not true for all the islands. The islands like Minicoy, Kalpeni, Androth Kadmat, Chetlat & Bitra have sex-ratio favourable towards females. In case of Agatti, Kavaratti, Amini and Kiltan the sex-ratio is highly in favour of males. Further, all the islands except Bitra have shown decline in sex-ratio from 1961 to 1971. In case of Bitra, both males and females are of

equal number as per 1971 census. Among all the islands, Minicoy has the highest sex-ratio in both 1961 and 1971 censuses whereas Kavaratti has the lowest as per 1971 Census. In case of Minicoy island, a significant number of male workers are found engaged as sailors in Indian & foreign ships for the past few generations which resulted sex-ratio overwhelmingly favourable towards females. As regards Kavaratti island, the preponderance of males over females as explained earlier was due to shifting of the Administration's Headquarters from Calicut to Kavartti.

Age structure of the population

Age like sex is one of the most basic characteristics of a population. One can form a good idea of the history of the population looking at its age composition. Information on the age structure of the population is essential for planners and Administrators to formulate education and welfare programmes more precisely. In the life insurance business and for determining labour force, they are invaluable.

According to the United Nations, age is estimated or calculated at interval of time between the date of birth and the date of the census, expressed in completed solar years. In Indian Census age of the person is recorded in total years completed last birth day. The concept of age changed from Census to Census. In 1872, age 'next birthday' was recorded. From 1881 to 1921 and also in 1951, age completed on the last birth day was entered. In 1941 Census, 'age last birth day' was recorded. In 1971 census the age of the persons in total years completed last birth day was entered. Ignorance of age, misunderstanding of the question and deliberate misstatement in a large section of the Population has always vitiated the accuracy of the age returned in the Census. The single year age data

when plotted on a graph show the familiar concentrations and depressions at regular intervals which are attributable to the age distortions due to preference for particular digits and ages.

We may now classify the population of this union territory into the following different groups:

TABLE

Sl. No.	Age-group	Category of population	Percentage to the total population (1971)
1.	0	Infant	2.94
2.	1—4	Children	12.71
3.	5—14	Young boys & girls	25.16
4.	15—34	Young men and women	33.43
5.	35—59	Middle aged men & Women	20.68
6.	60+	Old men & women	5.08

It is clear from the above table that infants, children and young boys and girls constitute 40.81% of the population of this union territory resembling all India pattern. When the data are assembled in broad age-groups and plotted on a graph paper, the age structure shows a flat base tapering off rapidly in the higher ages. This indicates a persistent high level of fertility. Youthfulness of our population reveals that we have to invest a considerable part of our funds on schools and special medical facilities. Further, the large young population means that the population growth will continue to be high in the near future. The statement

given below shows the sex-wise population in different age-groups and percentage of persons to the total population for our union territory and India.

TABLE

Age-group	L.M.&A. Islands			Percentage of persons of L.M. & A. Islands to the total population, 1971	Percentage of persons of All India to the total population, 1971
	Persons	Males	Females		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
0—14	12,982	6,820	6,162	40·81	42·02
15—19	3,015	1,454	1,561	9·48	8·66
20—24	2,790	1,267	1,523	8·77	7·86
25—29	2,695	1,300	1,395	8·47	7·45
30—39	4,059	2,057	2,002	12·76	12·60
40—49	2,856	1,448	1,408	8·98	9·34
50—59	1,798	886	912	5·65	6·08
60+	1,615	846	769	5·08	5·97
A.N.S.	..	..	..	..	0·02

From the above table we find that the population of age-group 0-14 and 60+ constitute 45.89% of the total population of this union territory and they are not expected to do any economically active work. The people of the above two age-groups are called the dependent population and they are on the shoulders of the population of age-group 15-59 who are generally called working age-group population. We can now compare the proportion of the population in the working age-group and those not in the working age-group. The relationship between the number of the persons

in the age-group 0-14 and 60+ to those in the age-group 15-59 is called the "Dependency Ratio" which infact gives us the number of dependents for every hundred of the population in the working age-group. Table given below reveals the dependency ratio of various countries of the world.

TABLE
AGE COMPOSITION OF THE POPULATION IN A FEW
SELECTED COUNTRIES

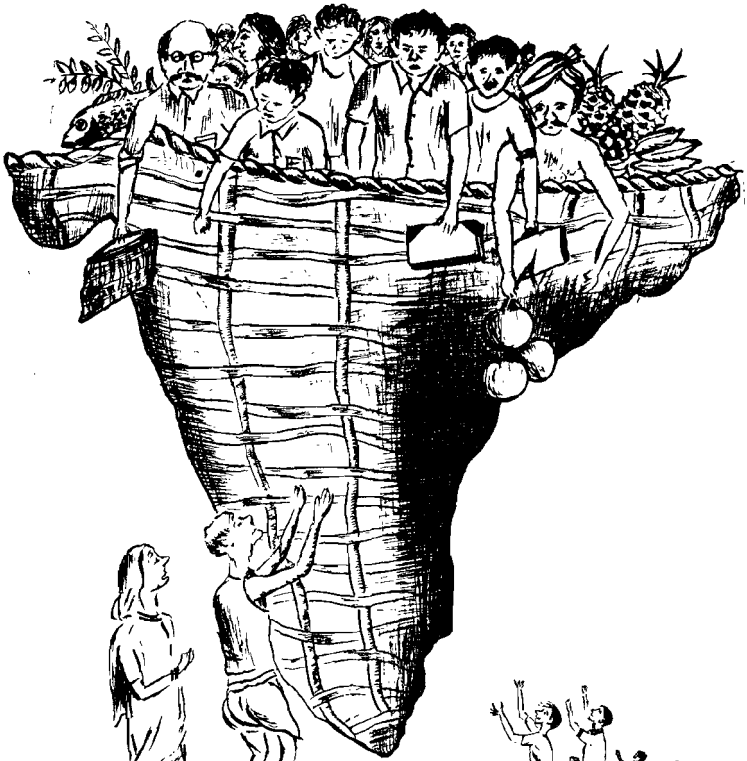
Country	Census year	Percentage distribution of popu- lation by age-groups			Depen- dency Ratio
		0-14	15-59	60+	
1	2	3	4	5	6
U.S.A. .	1970	28.50	57.39	14.11	74
Canada	1966	32.93	56.06	11.01	78
England	1961	22.97	59.78	17.25	67
France .	1968	23.75	57.45	18.80	74
Sweden	1960	22.00	60.74	17.26	65
West					
Germany	1961	22.04	61.52	16.37	62
Russia .	1970	30.91	57.29	11.80	75
Japan .	1965	25.61	64.70	9.69	55
Mexico .	1970	46.22	48.16	6.62	108
Iran .	1966	46.09	47.38	6.53	111
Turkey .	1965	41.88	50.97	7.00	96
India .	1971	42.02	51.99	5.97	92
L.M. & A. Islands	1971	40.81	54.11	5.08	85

We find from the above table that the developing countries like ours, Iran, Mexico and Turkey have very high dependency ratio which is almost entirely due to

56 (a)

DEPENDENCY RATIO, INDIA, 1971

AGE GROUP 15-59 (51.99 PERCENT)



AGE GROUP 60+ (5.97 PERCENT)

AGE GROUP 0-14 (42.02 PERCENT)

the high proportion of children below 14 in the population. This high proportion of population below 14 is itself a direct consequence of the high birth rates. The contrast in the distribution patterns by age-groups of the population of the economically advanced countries and the developing countries is striking. It is clear from the above table that the proportion of the young is much lower in the economically advanced countries than the developing countries. Dependency ratio for India as a whole is 92 whereas that of our union territory is 85. This high ratio of dependency means that the number of dependents is almost equal to the number in the working age-group resulting economic backwardness in the country. The table given below shows the island-wise distribution of dependency ratio:

TABLE

Union Territory/ Islands	POPULATION IN AGE GROUP						
	0—14 Years		15-59 years		60 years & above		
	Po- pu- la- tion	Per- cent- age to total popu- la- tion	Po- pul- la- tion	Per- cent- age to total popu- la- tion	Po- pu- la- tion	Per- cent- age to total popu- la- tion	De- pen- cy ratio
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
L.M.&A.Islands	12,982	40.81	17,213	54.11	1,615	5.08	85
Minicoy . . .	2,116	39.61	2,866	53.65	360	6.74	86
Kalpeni . . .	1,252	39.72	1,667	52.89	233	7.39	89
Androth . . .	2,437	44.92	2,795	51.52	193	3.56	94
Agatti . . .	1,395	44.21	1,620	51.35	140	4.44	95
Kavaratti . . .	1,697	38.39	2,560	57.92	163	3.69	73

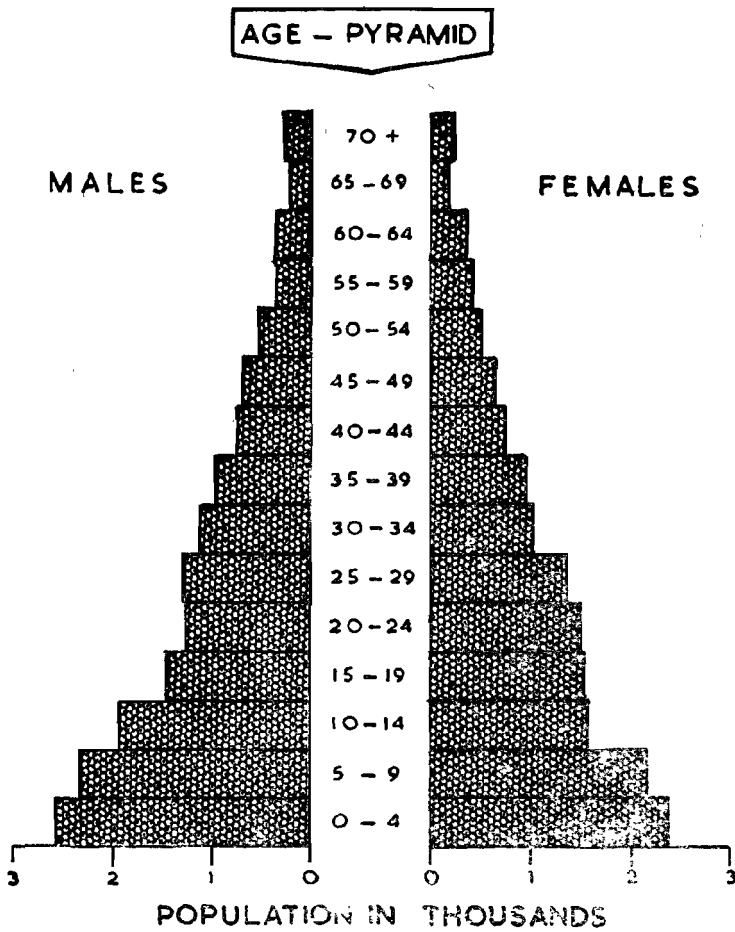
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8		
Amini	·	·	1,748	38·49	2,551	56·16	243	5·35	78
Kadmat	·	·	1,051	43·50	1,266	52·40	99	4·10	91
Kiltan	·	·	844	41·25	1,091	53·32	111	5·43	88
Chetlat	·	·	414	34·50	718	59·83	68	5·67	67
Bitra	·	·	28	25·00	79	70·54	5	4·46	42

Among all the ten inhabited islands, Agatti has the highest dependent population and Bitra has the lowest one. Except Kavaratti, Amini, Chetlat and Bitra the dependency ratio of other islands are above union territory's average.

Age Pyramid

Age pyramid depicts the combine picture of sex and age composition of the population of a country. If we plot graphically age and sex composition of population, we will get age pyramid in which the broad base represents the youngest ages and the sides gradually slope inwards due to death in the higher age groups. There exists a sharp contrast between developing and developed countries of the world regarding sex and age composition. Age pyramid will help us to distinguish such contrast for various purposes. Methodology of drawing age pyramid involves drawing a horizontal bar by population of each 5 years age-group. The male population is shown on the left-side and the female on the right side. The table given below shows the proportions of population in the various age-groups for India and Laccadive, Minicoy and Amindivi Islands (in percent):

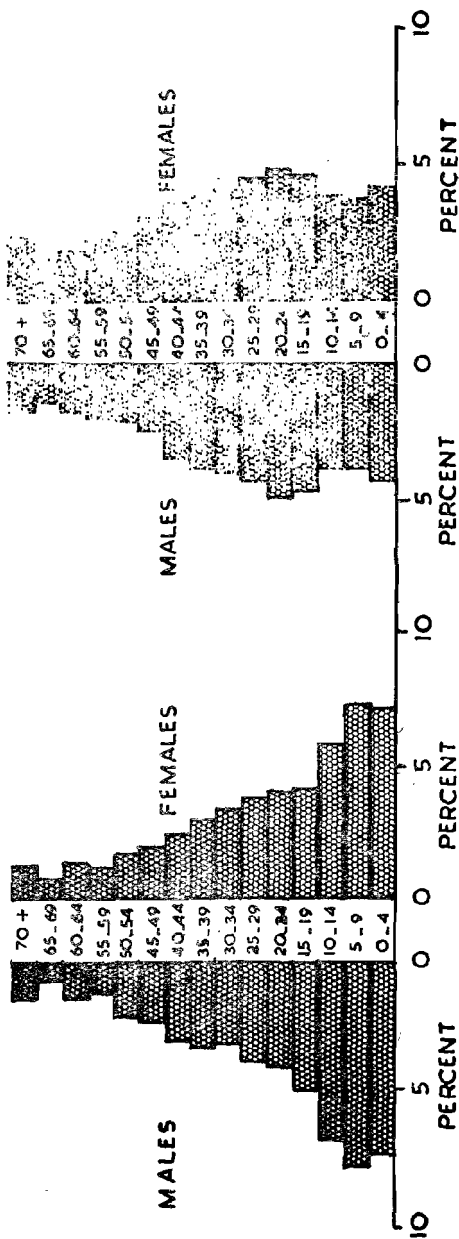
POPULATION OF L.M&A ISLANDS



AGE PYRAMID

INDIA, 1971

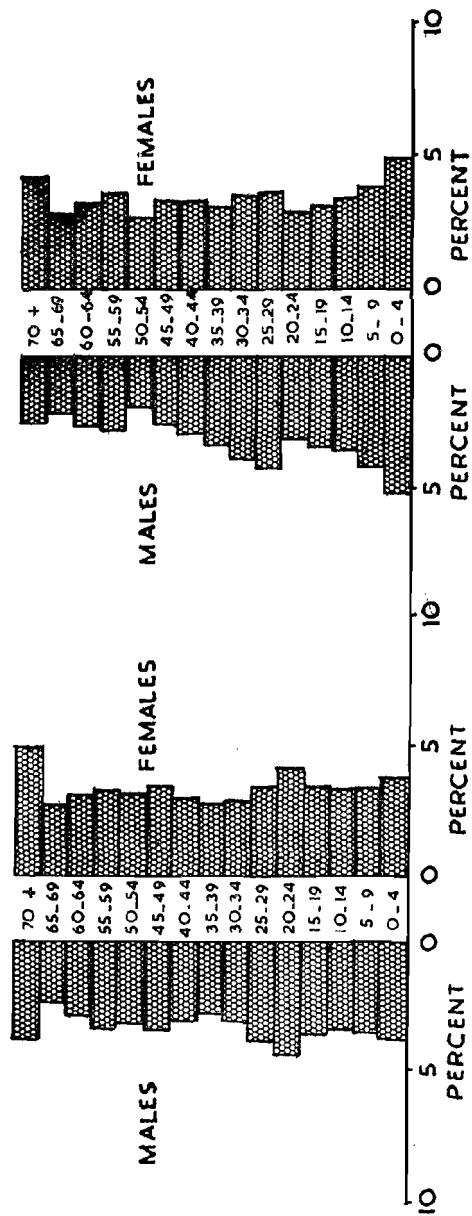
JAPAN, 1969



AGE PYRAMID

SWEDEN, 1969

WEST GERMANY, 1968



TABLE

Age-groups	India		L.M.&A. Islands	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
1	2	3	4	5
0—4 . . .	14·15	14·90	16·11	15·18
5—9 . . .	14·86	15·07	14·37	13·88
10—14 . . .	12·85	12·22	11·94	10·11
15—19 . . .	8·88	8·42	9·04	9·92
20—24 . . .	7·59	8·15	7·88	9·68
25—29 . . .	7·16	7·76	8·09	8·87
30—34 . . .	6·45	6·76	6·93	6·49
35—39 . . .	6·07	5·93	5·86	6·23
40—44 . . .	5·30	5·01	4·70	4·73
45—49 . . .	4·39	3·95	4·31	4·22
50—54 . . .	3·91	3·56	3·25	3·22
55—59 . . .	2·42	2·26	2·26	2·58
60—64 . . .	2·64	2·61	2·27	2·34
65—69 . . .	1·28	1·27	1·28	1·11
70— . . .	2·03	2·11	1·71	1·44
A.N.S. . . .	0·02	0·02	..	..

Age pyramids drawn on the basis of the above table both for India and Laccadive, Minicoy and Amindivi islands show that the bases of the pyramids are sufficiently broad reflecting the youthfulness of our population. As the age increases the proportions are lower and ultimately, the walls of the pyramid slope steeply inwards. The rapid shrinking of the steps as the ages advance suggest relative high death rates in the successive age-groups. Due to improved medical facilities available throughout the country, we have been able to reduce the number of death during the

last two decades but due to the higher average death rates unlike developed countries, the age pyramid of our country looks very sharp as the age-group advances. Thus age pyramids help us in depicting the sex and age composition as well as prevailing economic and social conditions of a country.



CHAPTER V

HOW MANY OF US CAN READ AND WRITE?

Literacy is the measuring rod of culture and civilization of a country. The history of Census would show that the information on literacy had been collected in all the censuses of our country. In the past censuses of India, the assessment of the degree of proficiency in reading and writing was left to the discretion and even idiosyncrasies of the census officials. This has resulted noncomparability in literacy in different regions of the country as well as at different censuses. The definition of the term 'literacy' has been more precisely defined in the recent censuses. In 1971 census, besides literacy, data on educational level has also been canvassed through the individual slip. Attempt has also been made to collect the details of degree holders and technical personnels through a card. This chapter is built upon the answers to the questions on literacy and level of education. These two are highly informative for planning of educational programmes, for economic, social and political advancement at national and international level. According to 1971 census a person who can both read and write with understanding in any language is taken as literate. A person who can merely read but cannot write is not treated as literate. It is not necessary that a person who is a literate should have received any formal education or should have passed any minimum educational standard. Ability to sign one's name is not ade-

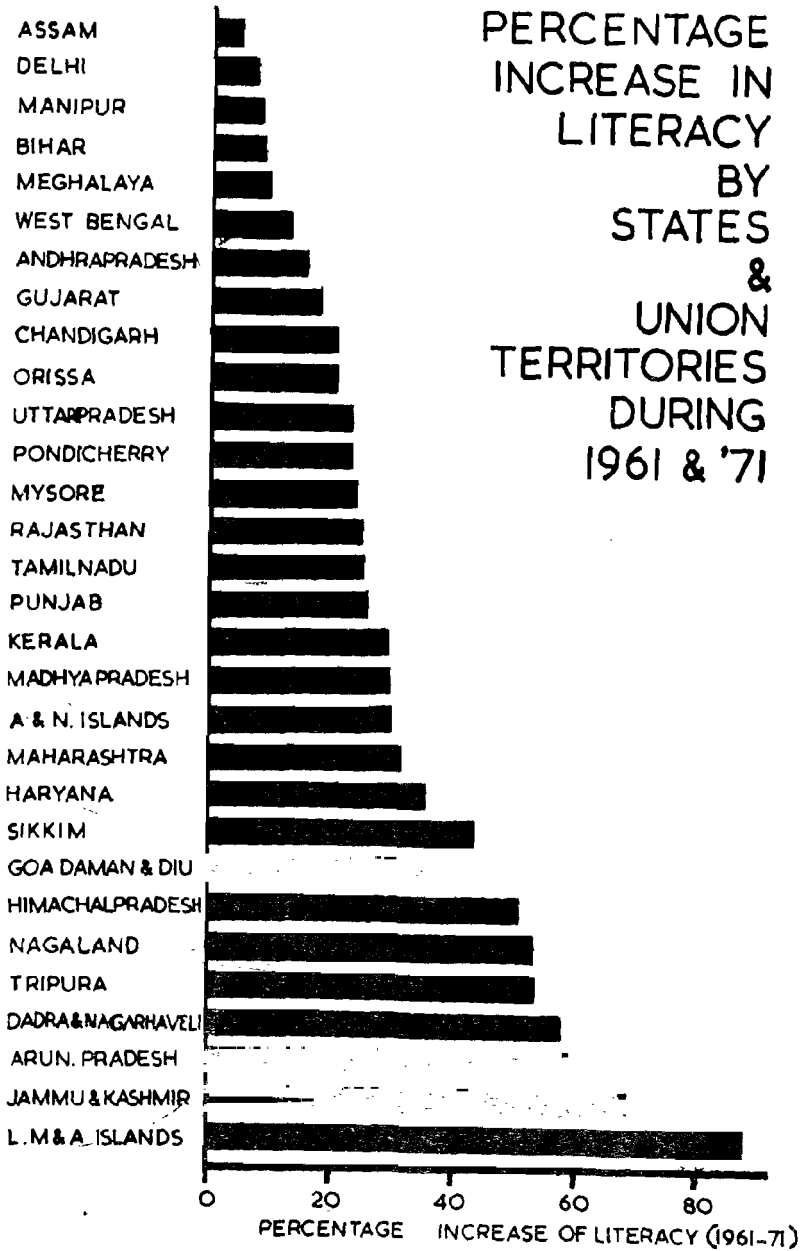
quate to qualify a person as being able to write with understanding. If a person claims to be literate in some other languages with which the enumerator is not acquainted the respondent's words have to be taken as correct. Other members of the household will also be able to testify to the literacy of the person enumerated.

In the union territory of Lakshadweep the system of transliterating Malayalam language in Arabic alphabets is very popular especially among the women folk. They can neither read and write Malayalam language nor understand Arabic words, but for the purpose of communication they write Malayalam words in Arabic alphabets. These cases are also treated as literates.

A person can neither read nor write or can merely read but cannot write in any language is treated as illiterate. All children of the age group 0-4 years are treated as illiterate even if the child is attending school and has picked up reading and writing a few odd words.

The test for education is that a person should have passed an examination as proof of educational level attained. For a person who is studying in a particular class, the highest educational level attained by him is the one that he has actually passed and not the one in which he is studying.

According to the 1971 census, the rate of literacy in our union territory is 43.66 as against 29.45 percent ;



in the whole country. Among the states and union territories the highest percentage of literacy is found in Chandigarh (61.56%) and the lowest in Arunachal Pradesh (11.29%). Among the states Kerala has a literacy rate (60.42%) more than double that of all India, and Jammu & Kashmir has the minimum (18.58%).

The following table shows the percentage of literacy in different states/union territories as per 1971 Census with their ranks:

TABLE

State/Union Territory	Ranks	Percentage of literates to total population			Percentage increase in literacy (1961-1971)
		Persons	Males	Females	
1	2	3	4	5	6
INDIA . . .		29.45	39.45	18.69	+22.61
Chandigarh . . .	1	61.56	66.97	54.35	+20.56
Kerala	2	60.42	66.62	54.31	+28.96
Delhi	3	56.61	63.71	47.75	+7.32
Pondicherry . .	4	46.02	57.29	34.62	+22.95
Goa, Daman & Diu	5	44.75	54.31	35.09	+45.53
L.M. & A. Islands	6	43.66	56.48	30.56	+87.62
Andaman and Nicobar Islands . .	7	43.59	51.64	31.11	+29.62
Tamil Nadu . .	8	39.46	51.78	26.86	+25.63
Maharashtra . .	9	39.18	51.04	26.43	+31.39
Gujarat	10	35.79	46.11	24.75	+17.54
Punjab	11	33.67	40.38	25.90	+25.92
West Bengal . .	12	33.20	42.81	22.42	+13.39
Manipur	13	32.91	46.04	19.53	+8.19

1	2	3	4	5	6
Himachal Pradesh .	14	31·96	43·19	20·23	+50·33
Mysore . .	15	31·52	41·62	20·97	+24·09
Tripura . .	16	30·98	40·20	21·19	+53·06
Meghalaya	17	29·49	34·12	24·56	+9·55
Assam . . .	18	28·72	37·19	19·27	+4·86
Nagaland . .	19	27·40	35·02	18·65	+52·99
Haryana . .	20	26·89	37·29	14·89	+34·92
Orissa . . .	21	26·18	38·29	13·92	+20·87
Andhra Pradesh .	22	24·57	33·18	15·75	+15·95
Madhya Pradesh .	23	22·14	32·70	10·92	+29·25
Uttar Pradesh .	24	21·70	31·50	10·55	+22·95
Bihar . . .	25	19·94	30·64	8·72	+8·37
Rajasthan . .	26	19·07	28·74	8·46	+25·38
Jammu and Kashmir	27	18·58	26·75	9·28	+68·45
Sikkim . . .	28	17·74	25·37	8·90	+43·88
Dadra and Nagar Haveli . . .	29	14·97	22·15	7·84	+57·91
Arunachal Pradesh	30	11·29	17·82	3·71	+58·35

+1961 data derived from population based on all India Schedule.

Laccadive, Minicoy and Amindivi Islands improved her rank from 16th in 1961 to 6th in 1971 among all the states and union territories in the case of literacy. Chandigarh (61.56%), Kerala (60.42%), Delhi (56.61%), Pondicherry (46.02%) and Goa, Daman and Diu (44.75%) have the 1st five ranks respectively. It is obvious that the percentage of literates and educated persons are high in most of the union territories.

It is interesting to note that most of the states and union territories which were fairly low rank in literacy in 1961 were also continued to be so in 1971. However, in case of Laccadive, Minicoy and Amindivi is

lands, it is not so. The literacy rate in 1961 of Laccadive, Minicoy and Amindivi islands was only 23.27% which increased to 43.66% in 1971. Thus L.M. and A islands has shown magnificent progress in literacy (87.62 percent) during the decade 1961-71 over the previous decade. This is infact due to the dedicated efforts made by the Lakshadweep Administration and co-operation received from the inhabitants of the islands.

Let us now consider only the rural population. The literacy rate in India is 23.74% (rural) which is about half of this union territory. In case of rural literacy rate, L.M. and A islands ranks second among the states and union territories, Kerala (59.28%) being the first.

Of our 13,889 literate and educated persons as per 1971 census 56.48 percent are males and 30.56 percent are females. In case of all India rural, there are 33.76% male and 13.17% female literates which reveals that our union territory is much more progressive in advancement of literacy for both the sexes. If the women folk in the rural areas are taken into account, though low enough compared to males, Laccadive, Minicoy & Amindivi Islands is drawn to the third rank, first being Kerala (53.10%) and second Goa, Daman and Diu (31.06%). In 1961, 10.98% of the females of Laccadive, Minicoy & Amindivi Islands were literate and educated. The percentage growth of literacy of female population over the 1961 rate is calculated as 178.32%, while that of total literate population is 87.62%. The fact is that the literacy among the women folk of this Union Territory has considerably increased only during the decade 1961-71.

The subjoined table gives the number of illiterates, literate and educated persons and the percentage of the latter to the total population.

TABLE

Age Group	Persons	Illiterate	Literate & educa- ted per- sons	Percent- age of literate and edu- cated per- sons to the total popula- tion in each age group
All ages . . .	31,810	17,921	13,889	43·66
0—4 . . .	4,978	4,978	..	..
5—9 . . .	4,494	3,445	1,049	23·34
10—14 . . .	3,510	675	2,835	80·77
15—19 . . .	3,015	620	2,395	79·44
20—24 . . .	2,790	869	1,921	68·85
25—29 . . .	4,830	2,173	2,657	55·01
35+ . . .	8,193	5,161	3,032	37·01

Literacy rate is high in the age group 10-14 (80.77%) followed by the age group 15-19 (79.44%), 20-24 (68.85%), 25-29 (55.01%). There are only 37.01% of literate and educated persons above 35 years. In case of age group 5-9, only 23.34% are literate which is a contrasting feature when compared with some other states and union territories.

The age-group 0-4 is treated as illiterate. The population in the age-group 5-20 is considered as school going children and 21 years and above as adult population. The population in the age group 5-19 comes to 11,019 in respect of this union territory of which 4,740 persons are illiterate. That shows 43% of the population in this age group is illiterate. This concludes that a less proportionate boys and girls in the

age-group 5-19 attend to schools and colleges. Out of 15,813 persons in the age group 20 and above, only 48% are literate and educated persons. That shows majority of the adult population of this union territory are illiterates. When the literacy rates are expressed in terms of time series the following pattern emerges.

TABLE
PERCENTAGE LITERACY BY SEX OF THE UNION TERRITORY OF L.M. & A. ISLANDS FROM 1901-1971

Year	Persons	Males	Females
1901	3.59	6.66	0.71
1911	2.79	5.50	0.04
1921	3.42	6.78	0.14
1931	6.77	12.43	1.08
1951	15.23	25.59	5.30
1961	23.27	35.80	10.98
1971	43.66	56.48	30.56

NOTE:—Data relating to the year 1941 are not available.

Prior to Independence of India, literacy rates were very low not only in our union territory but also in various states. The female literacy in our union territory was almost negligible in earlier decades. A spectacular improvement was observed in respect of female literacy during the last decade.

The subjoined statement gives the percentage of literate and educated persons to total population, males and females in each of the islands.

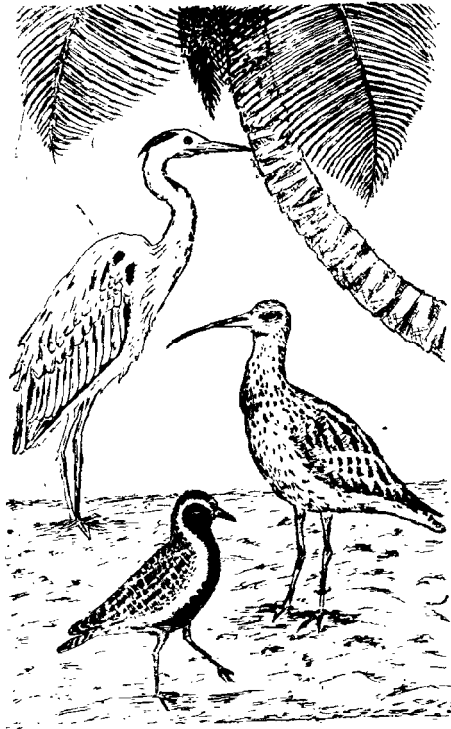
TABLE

Union Territory/ Island	Percentage of literate and educated		
	Persons	Males	Females
L.M.&A. Islands	43.66	56.48	30.56
1. Minicoy	51.03	60.34	43.25
2. Kalpeni	47.56	58.23	37.08
3. Androth	34.88	52.02	18.28
4. Agatti	43.17	55.86	29.18
5. Kavaratti	44.37	60.40	24.57
6. Amini	40.69	55.84	23.25
7. Kadmat	48.80	57.30	40.52
8. Kiltan	41.84	50.67	32.49
9. Chetlat	43.17	53.39	33.28
10. Bitra	42.86	51.79	33.93

In respect of literacy of this union territory Minicoy island comes first (51.03%) followed by Kadmat (48.80%) and Kalpeni (47.56%). The maximum number of educational institutions are at Androth and Amini and the literacy rate of these islands are 34.88% and 40.69% respectively. One of the striking features is that the Androth island, which is one of the two islands having maximum number of educational institutions, has the lowest percentage of literacy among the islands with significant sex-differential in literacy.

In the case of Male literates, Kavaratti (60.40%) comes first closely followed by Minicoy (60.34%) and Kiltan has the least (50.67%). Taking the female population, literates are found maximum at Minicoy (43.25%). Then comes Kadmat (40.52%) and Kalpeni (37.08%). The percentage of literacy of women folk in 1961 was 10.98%. But it has considerably increased to 30.56% in 1971.

Nearly 93% of the population of this union territory are scheduled tribes of which 41.37% are literate and educated persons. This is about 2% below than the union territory's average. Similarly the percentage of male scheduled tribe literate and educated persons to total scheduled tribe male population is 54.06% and that of females 28.93%. These rates show more or less proportionate reduction from the general literacy rates of population of this union territory as a whole.



CHAPTER VI

OUR MOTHER TONGUE

Our country comprises of people of many diverse races, cultures and languages. One of the aspects of our people that has always fascinated and engaged in the minds of students of India is the language that we speak that is our mother tongue. Mother tongue is an important part of culture uniquely related to the whole by its symbolic status. The language census literature that has grown over the last one hundred years of Indian Census history has shed light on the ethnic and linguistic structure of our country. In the individual slip of the 1971 census of India, there were two questions on 'language information'—one on 'mother tongue' and the other on 'Other Languages'. Question 14 was on 'mother tongue' and clear instructions were given to the census enumerator for recording the answer. Question 15 was on 'other languages'. The two questions were canvassed on the entire Indian population including the union territory of Arunachal Pradesh where the complete census schedule had been canvassed on only a small section of its population in 1961 census.

Question 14 of the individual slip of 1971 Census pertaining to mother tongue is defined as follows: "Mother tongue is the language spoken in childhood by the person's mother to the person. If the mother died in infancy, the language mainly spoken in the person's home in childhood will be the mother tongue. In the case of infants, deaf & mutes the language usually spoken by the mother was recorded."

The classification system of language had been evolved by Dr. G. A. Grierson over a period extending from 1895 to 1927. In 1886, on his initiative the

proposal of linguistic survey in India was moved in the Ninth International Congress of orientalists held at Vienna by Prof. Buhbi after which the executive committee of the congress requested the Government of India to take up the survey work. The Govt. of India entrusted Sir Grierson with this work by appointing him as the superintendent of the linguistic survey in 1898. It took 31 long years to complete the work. Grierson classified the languages mainly on the basis of their structures for which purpose he exploited all the available materials. Broad groupings were made following the traditional geneological classifications. Thus he classified all the languages according to the four great families of India viz. Austric, Dravidian, Indo-European and Tibeto-chinese. He made further classification such as sub-family branch, group etc.

The distribution of speakers of all the languages/ mother-tongues has been published in table C-V of volume Part II-C Social and Cultural tables. The distribution of speakers of languages (inclusive of mother-tongues grouped under each) specified in Schedule VIII to the Constitution of India and the speakers of Languages/Mother-tongues (inclusive of mother-tongues where grouped) other than those specified in Schedule VIII to the Constitution of India have been given separately in Part A and B of the tables. The identifiable mother tongue which returned 10,000 or more speakers each at the all-India level have been grouped in some cases under the relevant language(s) on the basis of information readily available in the light of studies already made.

All other mother-tongues falling under Part B and which returned less than 10,000 speakers each at the all-India level or were not 'identifiable' on the basis of information available as of data are included in the category 'Others'.

The following table gives the number of speakers of the languages/mother-tongues (inclusive of mother-tongues grouped under each) specified in Schedule VIII to the Constitution of India at all India and union territory levels.

TABLE

Language/Mother tongue	INDIA		UNION TERRITORY	
	No. of speakers	Percentage to total Population	No. of speakers	Percentage to total population
1	2	3	4	5
Assamese . .	8,959,558	1.63	..	..
Bengali . .	44,792,312	8.17	4	0.01
Gujarati . .	25,865,012	4.72	1	N
Hindi . .	208,514,005	38.04	62	0.19
Kannada . .	21,710,649	3.96	15	0.05
Kashmiri . .	2,495,487	0.46	..	..
Malayalam . .	21,938,760	4.00	26,689	83.90
Marathi . .	41,765,190	7.62	8	0.02
Oriya . .	19,863,198	3.62	..	..
Punjabi . .	14,108,443	2.57	5	0.02
Sanskrit . .	2,212	N	..	..
Sindhi . .	1,676,875	0.31	..	..
Tamil . .	37,690,106	6.88	113	0.36
Telugu . .	44,756,923	8.17	6	0.02
Urudu . .	28,620,895	5.22	32	0.10

N—Negligible

According to the 1971 Census, the language/mother-tongue Malayalam is predominant in the territory and is spoken by 26,689 persons or 83.90 per cent of the total population.

The table given below shows the number of speakers and percentage to total population of languages/mother-tongues (inclusive of mother-tongues where grouped) other than those specified in Schedule VIII to the Constitution of India for our union territory.

TABLE

Language/Mother-tongue	No. of speakers	Percentage to total population
English	3	0.01
Konkani	4	0.01
Nocte	5	0.02
Tulu	1	N
Others	4,862	15.29

The table given below gives the distribution of language/mother tongue Malayalam and its percentage to total population in the union territory and islands.

TABLE

Union Territory/Islands	Malayalam	Percentage to total population
1	2	3
Laccadive Minicoy & Amindivi Islands	26,689	83.90
1. Minicoy	451	8.44
2. Kalpeni	3,134	99.43
3. Androth	5,410	99.72

1	2	3
4. Agatti	3,155	100·00
5. Kavaratti	4,281	96·86
6. Amini	4,501	99·10
7. Kadmat	2,414	99·92
8. Kiltan	2,035	99·46
9. Chetlat	1,196	99·67
10. Bitra	112	100·00

The script that is in vogue in islands other than Minicoy is the modern Malayalam script. The Arabic script is also popular among the people of this union territory, especially for the study of the Karan and it is known as 'Arabic Malayalam'. Even now certain people, especially the women write Malayalam in Arabic scripts.

Mahl is the language spoken by the people of Minicoy. It has a script of its own which is written from the right to left as in the case of Arabic. The alphabet of the language has 24 letters which exactly sound like the letters of the Arabic alphabet. Now the language spoken in Minicoy is called the modern Mahl which was formed with the mingling of Arabic language.



CHAPTER VII

THE RELIGIONS WE FOLLOW

Religion is an important social variable having a bearing on the demographic, cultural, health and economic characteristics of the population. Religion thus classifies population into distinct groups. In a secular democratic Republic like India, several religions have thrived from time to time. How these religions came into existence? The answer to this question reminds us our long past history. However, it was in India where the effective intermingling took place in socio-cultural aspects due to arrival of different rulers from different parts of the world from time to time with new thoughts and religious beliefs. Anyhow the credit is that our country still remains to be secular.

The census of 1971 has provided a variety of answers to the question on religion. But the figures were classified into six main religions viz. Hinduism, Islam, Christianity, Buddhism, Sikkism and Jainism. Religions other than the six mentioned above are clubbed together under one heading 'Other Religions'.

A striking feature of Laccadive, Minicoy and Amin-divi islands is that the inhabitants of these islands are all muslims. Persons returned as other religions are all temporary migrants who are employed in the union territory. Taking the population of this union territory, the percentage of Muslim population in the territory is calculated as 94.37 percent which is the maximum among the states and union territories in India followed by Jammu and Kashmir (65.85 percent). But the proportion of Muslim population of India as a whole comes to only 11.21 percent.

The total population of the union territory as classified according to religions at the Census of 1971 is 30,019 Muslims, 1945 Hindus, 239 Christians, 4 sikhs and 3 other religions and persuasions. The following statement gives the percentage of population in each religion to the total population of this union territory, 1971.

TABLE

Name of Religion	Population	Percentage to total population
Muslims	30019	94.37
Hindus	1545	4.86
Christians	239	0.75
Sikhs	4	0.01
Other Religions and persuasions	3	0.01
Total	31810	100.00

The proportion of population of this union territory to that of India is 0.01, of which Hindus, Christians and Sikhs are negligible compared to the total population of India. Nobody following beliefs and persuasions of Buddhism, Jainism has been returned from the whole of the territory.

The following table gives the island-wise distribution for each religion.

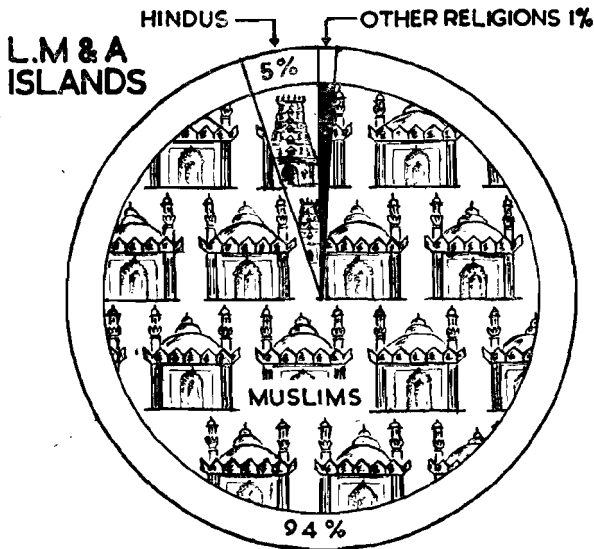
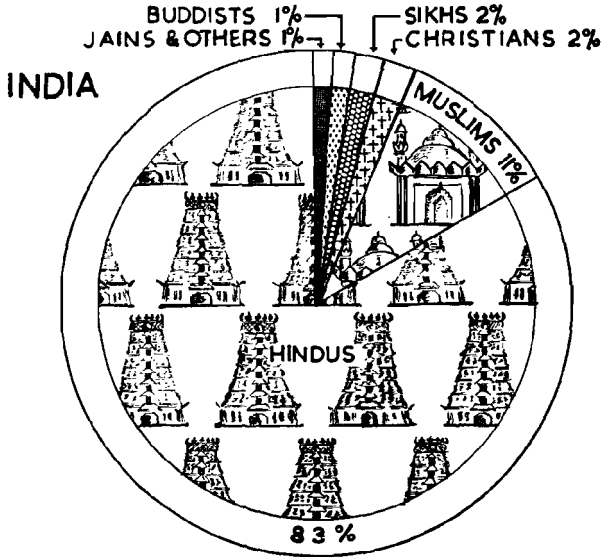
Union Territory/ Island	Muslims	Hindus	Christians	Sikhs	Other religions & persuasions
1	2	3	4	5	6
L.M. & A. Islands	30019	1545	239	4	3
1. Minicoy	4976	306	58	..	2

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Muhyiddin Mosque, Kavaratti

PERCENTAGE OF POPULATION BY RELIGION, 1971



1	2	3	4	5	6
2. Kalpeni . .	3046	92	13	..	1
3. Androth . .	5239	169	17	..	..
4. Agatti . .	3080	64	11	..	..
5. Kavaratti . .	3706	602	109	3	..
6. Amini . .	4366	161	15	..	..
7. Kadmat . .	2367	45	4	..	..
8. Kiltan . .	1980	60	5	1	..
9. Chetla . .	1147	46	7	..	..
10. Bitra . .	112	..	..	..	..

Among Christians and Hindus enumerated in the territory the highest number of them resides in Kavaratti followed by Minicoy. The island Bitra has a distinction of having the entire population of the Muslim faith. Largest number of Muslims are found at Androth island. However, the Muslim population is evenly distributed almost in all the islands of this union territory.

The following statement shows the trend of the growth of Hindus, Christians and Muslims of this union territory during the last seven decades.

TABLE

Decade	General Population	Hindus	Christians	Muslims
1901-11 . .	+ 4.85	..	..	+ 4.85
1911-21 . .	— 6.31	+ 8.00	—33.33	— 6.34
1921-31 . .	+17.62	—59.26	+50.00	+17.78
1931-41 . .	+14.43	+554.55	—66.67	+14.05
1941-51 . .	+14.60	—79.17	+100.00	+15.00
1951-61 . .	+14.61	+1653.33	+2700.00	+13.18
1961-71 . .	+31.95	+486.45	+326.79	+26.19

The rate of growth of population of each religion is quite different from that of others. During the decades 1961-71, Hindu population has a high rate of growth (487.45%) compared to the general population whereas the growth rate of Muslims is only 26.19%. A perusal of the trend of rate of each decade shows that the growth rate of Muslim population reflects on the general growth rate. The Hindus and Christians show an uncomparable growth rate during the decade 1951-61. This recalls the first flow of migration of Government employees such as teachers, agricultural and public works department workers from the mainland on account of the re-organisation of these islands as union territory.

A special feature of this union territory is that there are no permanent settlers of Hindus, Christians or any other religious beliefs or persuasions except that of Muslims. Therefore, the growth of the minor religions in this union territory depends on the employment side. Since all the employment opportunities are given to the local people, the growth rate of religions other than Islam will be steadily decreasing hereafter.



CHAPTER VIII

SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES

The diversity of our country's population is reflected in the presence of hundreds of castes and tribes, dozens of major languages, and hundreds of dialects. Almost every religion in this world is represented in the population of India. The scheduled castes are commonly known as the depressed classes of the Hindu society viz. untouchable section of the Sudra caste and for ages these depressed classes suffered various socio-economic and political disabilities in the hands of higher castes. Till 1935, these castes were generally known as the depressed classes. Dr. J. H. Hutton, the then Census Commissioner of India in 1931, systematically listed these depressed classes and they appeared for the first time in the Government of India Act, 1935. In order to continue and extend the anthropological investigations initiated by Sir Edward Plowden, the then Census Commissioner of 1881, Dr. J. H. Hutton made the first serious attempt to list these primitive tribes at the census of 1931. These tribal communities received special mention for the first time in the Government of India Act, 1935, where a reference was made to the 'backward tribes'. The specification of tribes and tribal communities as 'Scheduled Tribes' was finally made in the constitution of India.

According to the Articles 341 and 342 of the Constitution, the President of India is empowered to specify the list of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for each State and Union Territory. The names of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for each state

or local area are listed under a Presidential order. These communities are treated as Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes, as the case may be, at a Census.

A number of castes and tribes are in existence in India. A large number of nomads also came to India from various parts of the world. Many conquerors have established their dynasties. Due to gradual inter-mingling, new castes and tribes have formed in gradation. The association of a caste with a particular occupation has given rise to the conclusion that the origin of a caste is merely occupational differentiation. In the beginning all the castes were said to be equal. It was only later, castes were formed on the basis of occupation. Some castes among them are treated as inferior and some others superior.

We can see numerous tribal communities in India. Some of them still maintain their primitive social customs and rituals. Their remote habitations, pursuit for food, scant clothing, primitive way of living, innocence and simplicity made them further backward. These native people by keeping themselves in isolation remained extremely backward and ignorant over the centuries. However, forests, streams, pastures and hills have all contributed to the preservation of their tribal cultures which passionately clings to its way of life.

There is no scheduled caste in this union territory. According to the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes list (Modification order 1956), the inhabitants of the Laccadive, Minicoy and Amindivi islands who and both of whose parents were born in those islands are treated as scheduled tribes. There is only one tribe in this union territory. A peculiarity in the social set up of the islands is the distinction between the different classes viz. Koyas, Malmis and Melachris in

Laccadives and Amindivis, Manikfans, Thakrus and Raveris in Minicoy and Tarward, Tanakampranavar, Kudiatis and Melacheris in Amini. These classes appear to have been based originally on property which have rise to occupational differentiation. However, there are no differences in the religious beliefs, manners and customs of these different class groups.

It is usual to ask a question about the exact number of persons belong to the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes and to assess their economic and social conditions compared to the more advanced communities from time to time. A community recognised as scheduled caste or scheduled tribe in one area may not be accepted as such in another area. Their numbers diffe~~t~~ from state to state. It is customary to get an exact number of castes and tribes in every census. The enumerators are given clear instructions to verify the claim of scheduled castes or tribes with reference to the list applicable to that area.

Eighty million people in India according to the 1971 Census belong to scheduled castes. They make up 14.6 percent of the population of the country. The number of scheduled caste communities varies from place to place. The tribal population of India according to the 1971 census was 38 million accounting for 6.94 percent of the total population. The table given below shows the percentage of scheduled caste/scheduled tribe population to the total population for each state and union territory as per 1971 Census.

TABLE

PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF SCHEDULED CASTES
AND SCHEDULED TRIBES IN DIFFERENT STATES AND
UNION TERRITORIES OF INDIA IN 1971

Name of States/Union Territories	Scheduled Castes	Scheduled Tribes
1	2	3
INDIA	14·60	6·94
1. Andhra Pradesh	13·27	3·81
2. Assam*	6·10	12·84
3. Bihar	14·11	8·75
4. Gujarat	6·84	13·99
5. Haryana	18·89	..
6. Himachal Pradesh	22·24	4·09
7. Jammu & Kashmir	8·26	..
8. Kerala	8·30	1·26
9. Madhya Pradesh	13·09	20·14
10. Maharashtra	6·00	5·86
11. Manipur	1·53	31·18
12. Meghalaya	0·38	80·48
13. Mysore	13·14	0·79
14. Nagaland	..	88·61
15. Orissa	15·09	23·11
16. Punjab	24·71	..
17. Rajasthan	15·82	12·13
18. Sikkim	4·53	..
19. Tamil Nadu	17·76	0·76
20. Tripura	12·39	28·95
21. Uttar Pradesh	21·00	0·22
22. West Bengal	19·90	5·72
<i>Union Territories</i>		
1. Andaman & Nicobar Islands	..	15·72
2. Arunachal Pradesh	0·07	79·02

*Includes Mizo district now-constituted as Union Territory of 'Mizoram'.

1	2	3
3. Chandigarh	11.30	..
4. Dadra & Nagar Haveli . . .	1.80	86.89
5. Delhi	15.64	..
6. Goa, Daman and Diu	1.93	0.89
7. Laccadive Minicoy & Amin- divi Islands	..	92.86
8. Pondicherry	15.46	..

The proportion of the tribal population to the total population varies from place to place. Only 0.22 percent of the population of Uttar Pradesh is tribal. In both Mysore and Tamil Nadu they account for only 0.8 per cent and in Andhra Pradesh 3.8 per cent. In Kerala it is 1.3 per cent. However our union territory accounts for the highest proportion of tribal population (i.e. 92.9%) among all states and union territories of India. The inhabitants who are not treated as scheduled tribe as per the definition constitute only a negligible number.

The following statement gives the population of scheduled tribes in each island by sex.

TABLE

Union Territory/Island	Scheduled Tribe (1971)	
	Males	Females
1	2	3
LACCADIVE, MINICOY & AMINDIVI ISLANDS	14,614	14,926
1. Minicoy	2,079	2,724
2. Kalpeni	1,486	1,522
3. Androth	2,508	2,670
4. Agatti	1,597	1,462

1	2	3
5. Kavaratti	1,922	1,727
6. Amini	2,293	2,024
7. Kadmat	1,122	1,182
8. Kiltan	997	966
9. Chetlat	554	593
10. Bitra	56	56

The distribution of scheduled tribe population in each island is almost even either in the case of total population or in each sex. As stated above the population other than scheduled tribes constitutes only about 7%. Hence the characteristics of general population largely resemble with that of scheduled tribe population. There are only 479 persons among Muslims of this union territory who are not treated as scheduled tribe and therefore the growth of Muslim population will almost reflect the growth of scheduled tribe population. Table given below shows the percentage distribution of scheduled tribe in different islands during 1961 and 1971 censuses and their corresponding growth rate during the 1961-71 decade.

TABLE
PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF SCHEDULED TRIBES
IN DIFFERENT ISLANDS DURING 1961 AND 71 AND
THEIR CORRESPONDING GROWTH RATE DURING THE
DECADE

Name of Island	Proportion of Scheduled Tribe in each island		Growth rate during the decade 1961-71
	1961	1971	
1	2	3	4
Laccadive Minicoy & Amindivi Islands	97.03	92.86	26.29
Minicoy	96.93	89.91	19.72

1	2	3	4
Kalpeni . . .	98.01	95.43	17.45
Androth . . .	93.16	95.45	32.87
Agatti . . .	98.47	96.96	28.84
Kavaratti . . .	98.27	82.56	31.31
Amini . . .	96.74	95.05	26.41
Kadmat . . .	98.27	95.36	26.66
Kiltan . . .	99.01	95.94	30.43
Chetlat . . .	99.58	95.56	20.86
Bitra . . .	100.00	100.00	40.00

The overall growth rate, of scheduled tribe population of Laccadive, Minicoy & Amindivi Islands is 26.29%. Kalpeni, Minicoy and Chetlat Islands show the growth of scheduled tribe population below union territory's average.

During the decade under report (1961-71), a marvellous achievement in the field of education has been observed in almost all the islands. The table given below shows the literacy rates among scheduled tribes of different islands by sex.

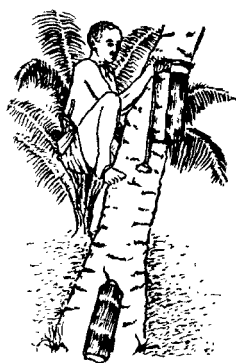
TABLE

LITERACY RATES AMONG SCHEDULED TRIBES OF
DIFFERENT ISLANDS IN 1971 BY SEX

Name of Islands			Literacy rates among S.T in 1971	
			Males	Females
1	2	3		
Laccadive Islands . . .	Minicoy . . .	& Amindivi . . .	54.06	28.94
Minicoy . . .			57.24	42.55

1	2	3
Kalpeni	57.74	35.74
Androth	50.28	17.12
Agatti	55.17	28.04
Kavaratti	53.07	19.46
Amini	54.82	21.79
Kadmat	55.97	39.93
Kiltan	49.35	31.47
Chetlat	51.44	32.88
Bitra	51.79	33.93

Figures in the above table reveal that literacy rate of both the sexes in respect of scheduled tribe population is undoubtedly higher than many states and union territories in India. While the differential of male literacy rate among different islands is insignificant, the same is, however, not true in case of female population. Except Minicoy, Kalpeni and Kadmat islands, sex differential in literacy rate in other islands is significant.



CHAPTER IX

OUR MAIN ACTIVITIES

The entire population can be divided broadly into those that are economically active and those that are not. Collection of information on the economic activity of the population is one of the most important items included in a census schedule. India has a tradition of collecting information on worker in her successive censuses from 1881 onwards. However, each census used a different concept to define a worker, making intercensal comparison difficult. Broadly speaking upto 1951, the classification as 'worker' and 'non-worker' was based on the 'dependancy approach' in which persons were classified as earners, earning dependents and non-earning dependents on the basis of their 'gainful occupation'. This approach was based on the idea that each person has a more or less stable functional role either as bread-winner or house wife or student and this role was independent to some extent of his activity at a particular point of time. With stagnant or slow economic development, an unorganised labour market and seasonal employment in agriculture, this was considered the best approach possible. With the emergence of an organised labour force and modern wage sectors of the economy, the concept had to undergo suitable changes. A dual approach was adopted accordingly in 1961 and 1971 Censuses, in which for those employed in traditional activities like agriculture, the activity during the last season was recorded, while in the case of those in regular employment, a reference period was adopted and the activity during that period entered. After independence of our country, the nation is marching towards economic independence through planned developmental activities. As the correct estimate of our working population, the

unemployed populace and the employment potential is very essential for planned development, the planning commission of our country with the help of experts from various organisations held a series of meetings in 1969 to evolve a definition which would give a factual estimate of the 'worker'. Thus, as per 1971 census a 'worker' was a person whose main activity was participation in economically productive work by his physical or mental activity. Work involved was not only actual work but also effective supervision and direction of work. The reference period was one week prior to the date of enumeration in case of the regular work and for the same in 1961 census, the basis was whether the person was employed during any of the 15 days preceding the day on which the household was visited. In case of seasonal work, a person's main activity was ascertained with reference to such work in the last one year even if he was not economically active in the week prior to enumeration. A person performing one's own household duties or who was primarily a student attending an educational institution, even if such a person helped in the family economic activity but not as a full time worker, was not treated as a worker for 'main activity'. A pensioner who did not have to work for receiving his pension was not treated as economically active unless he was also engaged in some other economic activity and returned it as his main activity. The conceptual difference in defining 'worker' between 1961 and 1971 Censuses has necessitated to conduct a Resurvey on economic question on the basis of 1961 & 71 concepts respectively and the results so obtained have already been published by the Registrar General, India. However, the data are not available at district level and hence it cannot be compared at union territory level as well. Table given below shows how the

participation rate of female workers has been affected in respect of Laccadive, Minicoy & Amindivi Islands :

TABLE

Year	Total workers P.R.		Male workers P.R.		Female workers P.R.	
	L.M.&A. Islands	All India	L.M.&A. Islands	All India	L.M.&A. Islands	All India
1961	51.6	43.0	51.6	57.1	51.7	28.0
1971	26.1	32.9	38.4	52.5	13.6	11.9

P.R. Participation Rate

The decline in participation rate from 1961 to 1971 is not only alarming in case of female workers of this union territory but also for male workers. As explained above, the possible reason for sudden decline is due to change in the concept of 'worker' from 1961 to 1971 Censuses.

The following table shows the percentage of worker to total population, India and states/union territories for 1971.

TABLE

PERCENTAGE OF WORKERS TO TOTAL POPULATION,
INDIA AND STATES 1971

Sl. No.	India/State/Union Territory	Percentage of workers to total population
1	2	3
INDIA	.	32.92
<i>States</i>		
1. Andhra Pradesh	.	41.39

1	2	3
2. Assam	.	28.35
3. Bihar	.	31.03
4. Gujarat	.	31.45
5. Haryana	.	26.44
6. Himachal Pradesh	.	36.95
7. Jammu & Kashmir	.	29.76
8. Kerala	.	29.12
9. Madhya Pradesh	.	36.72
10. Maharashtra	.	36.48
11. Manipur	.	34.57
12. Meghalaya	.	44.17
13. Mysore	.	34.74
14. Nagaland	.	50.75
15. Orissa	.	31.22
16. Punjab	.	28.87
17. Rajasthan	.	31.24
18. Sikkim	.	53.19
19. Tamil Nadu	.	35.78
20. Tripura	.	27.79
21. Uttar Pradesh	.	30.94
22. West Bengal	.	27.91

Union Territories

1. Andaman & Nicobar Islands	.	39.55
2. Arunachal Pradesh	.	57.65
3. Chandigarh	.	33.29
4. Dadra & Nagar Haveli	.	47.17
5. Delhi	.	30.21
6. Goa, Daman & Diu	.	31.67
7. Laccadive, Minicoy & Amindivi Islands	.	26.15
8. Pondicherry	.	29.90

From the above statement, it is observed that participation rate of our Union Territory is the lowest among all the states and union territories of India. As regards Laccadive, Minicoy and Amindivi Islands is concerned, the following table showing the percentage distribution of workers and non-workers by sex for different islands will reveal clear picture of work participation rate :

TABLE
WORKERS AND NON-WORKERS BY SEX FOR EACH
ISLAND

Union Territory/ Islands	Percentage of workers			Percentage of non-workers		
	Per- sons	Males	Fe- males	Per- sons	Males	Fe- males
L.M. & A. Islands	26.1	38.4	13.6	73.9	61.6	86.4
1. Minicoy	24.3	39.7	11.4	75.7	60.3	88.6
2. Kalpeni	32.9	40.6	25.3	67.1	59.4	74.7
3. Androth	20.0	33.0	7.4	80.0	67.0	92.6
4. Agatti	36.9	42.7	30.4	63.1	57.3	69.6
5. Kavaratti	23.9	39.2	5.1	76.1	60.8	94.9
6. Amini	23.8	28.0	19.1	76.2	72.0	80.9
7. Kadmat	22.2	43.6	1.4	77.8	56.4	98.6
8. Kiltan	30.4	46.5	13.5	69.6	53.5	86.5
9. Chetlat	31.4	52.4	11.1	68.6	47.6	88.9
10. Bitra	53.6	69.6	37.5	46.4	30.4	62.5

It is clear from the above table that the work participation rate of our union territory when compared with all India figures is lower in case of males but higher for females. In case of male workers, the participation rate at Minicoy, Kalpeni, Agatti, Kavaratti, Kadmat, Kiltan, Chetlat & Bitra is found more than

union territory's average participation rate. The lowest participation rate is observed in Amini Island. Except Kalpeni, Agatti, Amini and Bitra, the female work participation rate in other islands is lower than union territory's average. The low participation rate implies that for every economically active persons there are two who depended on him. Such type of high dependency rates are observed in some developing countries of the world.

The classification of workers by industry, occupation and employment status reflects the extent of specialisation and diversification of labour, considered by economists as indicators of economic progress. Such a classification when compared over time reveals the relative changes in the structure of economy. As per 1971 Census, the workers are categorised into nine broad groups of main activity which are detailed below:

<i>Category</i>	<i>Name of Industry</i>
I	Cultivators
II	Agricultural labourers
III	Live stock, Forestry, Fishing, Hunting & Plantation, Orchards and allied activities
IV	Mining and quarrying
V	(a) Household Industry (b) Manufacturing, Processing, Servicing & Repairs other than household Industry
VI	Construction
VII	Trade & Commerce
VIII	Transport, Storage & Communication
IX	Other services

Definitions of all the above nine categories of workers are given below:

I. Cultivator.—A person is treated as cultivator if he or she is engaged in cultivation by oneself or by supervision or direction in one's capacity as the owner or lessee of land held from the Government or as a tenant of land held from private persons, institutions for payment of money, kind or share. . .

II. Agricultural Labourer.—A person who works in another person's land for wages in money, kind or share should be regarded as an Agricultural labourer. He has no risk in the cultivation but he merely works in another person's land for wages. The labourer could have no right of lease or contract on land which he works.

III. Household Industry.—For a person who returns his main activity as engaged in some production, processing, servicing or repair of articles of goods such as, say, handloom weaving, dying, carpentry, bidi rolling, pottery manufacture, dairying, cycle repairing, black-smithy, tailoring etc. it is ascertained if it is a household industry and if so it is recorded as engaged in household industry.

Definition of Household Industry.—A household industry is defined as an industry conducted by the head of the household himself/herself and or family by the members of the household at home or within the premises of the house where the household lives in urban areas. The industry should not be run on the scale of a registered factory.

The main criterion of a household industry is the participation of one or more members of a household. This criterion should apply to urban areas too.....

In case of household industry or other work the information relating to place of work (Name of village or town), name of establishment, nature of industry, trade, profession or service, description of work and class of worker was also noted.

Nature of Industry, Trade, Profession or Service.—The sector of the economy in which a person works may relate to :

- (i) Plantation, Forestry, Fishing, Livestock etc.
- (ii) Mining and Quarrying
- (iii) Manufacturing
- (iv) Construction
- (v) Electricity, Gas or Water Supply
- (vi) Transport and Communications
- (vii) Trade and Commerce and
- (viii) Profession and Services.

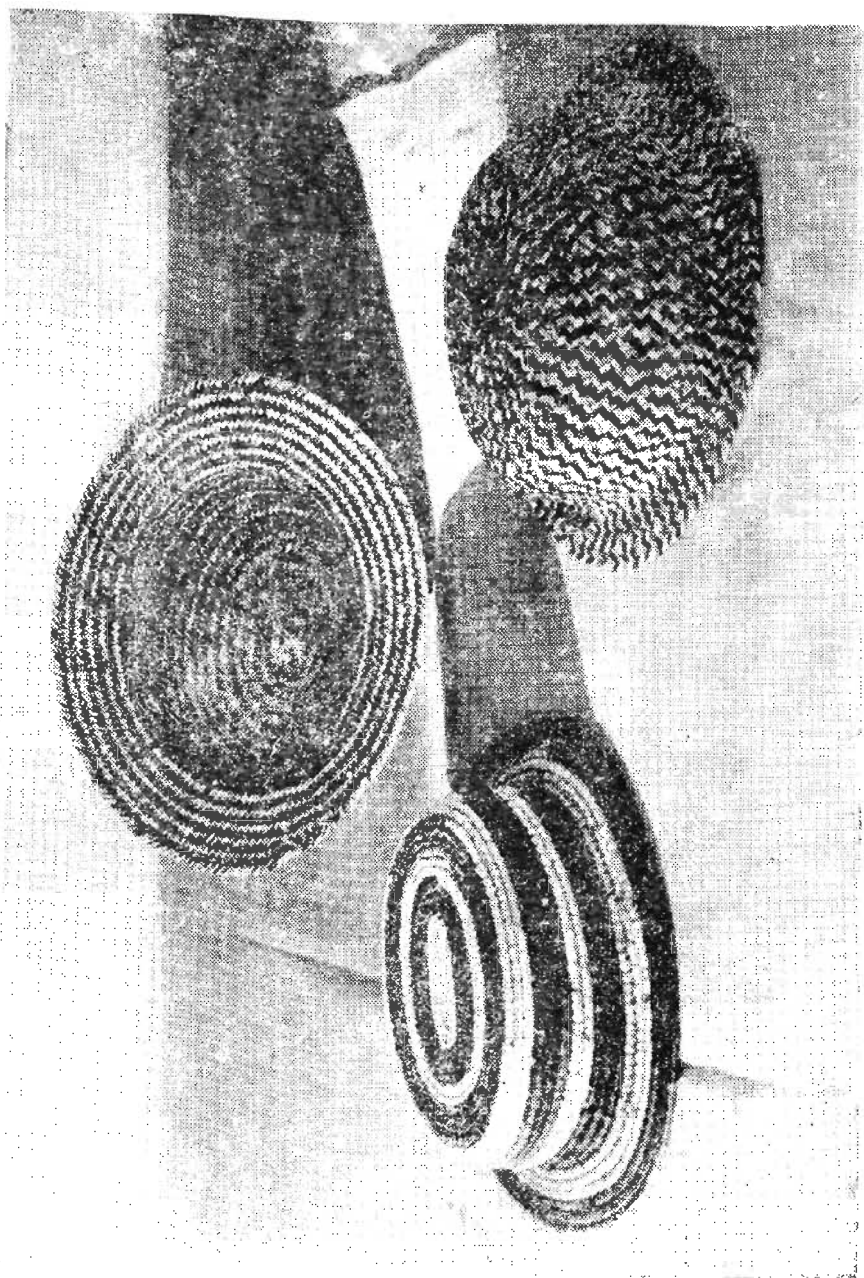
The full details of the type of industry, trade, profession, or service in which the person is engaged were recorded.

A person who gives his main activity as engaged in any other work which is not cultivation, agricultural labour or household industry, was regarded as 'Other Worker'.

Non-workers.—The item 'main activity' was intended to ascertain the main activity of every individual whether he/she was economically active or not. This item helped to categories those whose main activity was not related to any economically productive work, but were basically Non-Workers. These were categorised under seven broad heads.



Coir twisting



Hats made of coconut leaves

Household Duties.—"All these persons engaged in unpaid home duties doing no other work or even if such a person may also be participating in some other work, it is not to the same extent as a whole-time worker and if the person has returned his or her main activity as attending to household duties", were entered as engaged in household duties.

Student.—This covered "all full-time students or children attending school. Even if such persons participated in some work but not to the same extent as a full time worker, by merely helping casually as an unpaid family worker in family cultivation, household industry, trade or business". They were treated primarily as 'students'.

Retired Person or a Rentier.—"A person who has retired from service and doing no other work i.e. not employed again in some full time work or does not engage himself/herself in some other work as cultivation, in business, trade etc. or a person who is a rentier or living on agricultural or non-agricultural royalty, rent or dividend or any other person of independent means for securing which he/she does not have to work" was enumerated in this category.

Dependent.—This category included "all dependents such as infants or children not attending school or a person permanently disabled from work because of illness or old age". Dependents included all non-workers even if able bodied who had no other activity coming under any of the categories of non-workers and who were not seeking any work either but were purely dependents.

Beggar.—This covered "beggars, vagrants or such cases of independent women without indication of

source of income and those of unspecified sources of existence and who are not engaged in any economically productive work”.

Institution.—This covered “convicts in jails or inmates of a penal, mental or charitable institutions, even if such persons are compelled to do some work, such as, carpentry, carpet weaving etc. in such institutions”. An under-trial prisoner was not entered here but was indicated according to the main activity he was engaged in before he was apprehended.

Other Non-Workers.—This covered “all the non-workers who may not come in the above items but are seeking work”. A boy or girl who had completed education or had stopped studying and was seeking work was recorded in this item. A person irrespective of age and whether educated or not, if he reported that he was not engaged in any other work but was seeking work was enumerated in this category.

If the main activity of the person who was enumerated did not qualify a person to be treated as worker and he did not fall under any of the four broad categories viz. ‘Cultivator’, ‘Agricultural Labourer’, ‘Household Industry’ and ‘Other Worker’, he was categorised under ‘Non-Workers’.

The subjoined table gives the percentage distribution of working population into nine categories of workers:

TABLE
ISLANDWISE PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF WORKERS BY NINE INDUSTRIAL
CATEGORIES

	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX
	Cultiva- tors	Agricul- tural labourer	Livestock, Forestry, Fishing, & Hunting & Planta- tions, Orchards & allied activities	Mining & Quar- rying	(a) House- hold industry	— (b) Other than house- hold industry	Const- ruction Com- merce	Trade & Trans- port, storage & com- muni- cation	Other services
Laccadive,									
Minicoy & Amin- divi Islands	0.1	..	26.7	N	30.1	5.6	7.6	3.4	20.9
Minicoy	..	..	15.8	..	18.9	4.8	8.4	4.2	20.9
Kalpeni	..	..	27.2	..	49.5	2.9	2.0	3.1	13.4
Androth	0.4	..	38.9	0.1	19.5	4.3	7.1	2.8	25.9
Agatti	..	..	30.1	..	52.3	4.5	1.9	2.3	8.6
Kavaratti	..	..	4.5	..	5.4	8.8	26.8	4.8	44.8
Amini	..	..	11.2	..	54.6	2.6	5.2	4.8	19.8
Kadmat	..	..	68.5	0.5	3.4	1.7	4.5	2.8	18.1
Kiltan	..	..	52.5	..	22.8	2.9	3.5	2.9	14.9
Chetlat	..	..	16.9	..	25.8	33.4	5.3	1.6	16.2
Bitra	..	..	55.0	..	35.0	3.3	..	..	6.7

The above table reveals that unlike the workers of mainland who are mainly engaged as cultivators and agricultural labourers, the workers of Laccadive, Minicoy & Amindivi Islands are mainly engaged in plantations, fishing and household industries. Complete absence of agricultural labourers and the negligible number (only 4) of cultivators are the predominant contrasts observed in the workers of Laccadive, Minicoy and Amindivi Islands. A perusal of the table reveals that the number of females engaged in household industry is more than that of males in each island. The statement below shows the approximate number of females to one male member engaged in household industry:

TABLE

Union Territory/Island	Number of females per one male member
Laccadive, Minicoy & Amindivi Islands	3
Minicoy	7
Kalpeni	3
Androth	5
Agatti	3
Kavaratti	3
Amini	2
Kadmat	3
Kiltan	9
Chetlat	2
Bitra	20

26.7% of the total working population of this union territory are found engaged in the category III of the Industrial classification viz. Live stock, Forestry,

Fishing, Hunting and Plantations, Orchards and allied activities. Among the islands the highest and the lowest percentages of workers in this category are observed at Kadmat (68.5) and Kavaratti (4.5) respectively. Only a negligible proportion of workers are found engaged in the trade under category IV viz. Mining and Quarrying. At union territory level, 35.7 percent of the total workers are engaged in manufacturing, processing, servicing or repair works. This has been further classified as household industry and other than household industry under the industrial category V(a) and V(b) respectively. Whereas household industry accounts for 30.1 percent of the total workers, the trade under 'other than household industry' accounts for 5.6% only. A unique feature is that the majority of the workers in household industry are women folk (87.0%). As regards different islands are concerned, Kalpeni, Agatti and Amini have more than 50% of the workers engaged in household industry and the lowest proportion of workers engaged in the same trade is observed at Kadmat Island. Under the trade construction, Kavaratti has registered highest proportion of worker i.e. 26.8 percent of the total working population followed by Minicoy (8.4%). No person was found engaged in the same trade at Bitra. However, at union territory level the proportion of workers in this sector constitutes only 3.4% of the total workers.

The number of workers engaged in 'Transport, Storage and Communication' are 465 persons i.e. 5.6% of the total workers. Except Minicoy (27.0%) which tops among all other islands, the proportion of workers under this trade in the remaining islands are meagre. In this trade, Kavaratti, however, registered 4.9% of worker. No females are employed in this sector and similarly no person is seen engaged in this trade at Bitra.

The third large proportion of workers falls under the industrial category viz. 'Other Services'. This sector accounts for nearly 21% of the total workers of this union territory. This is a miscellaneous category covering people doing different kinds of work not coming under the purview of any preceding categories. Doctors, Government officials, teachers, musicians, social workers and personal service workers are included in this category. In this sector Kavaratti provides the highest number of workers (44.8%) followed by Androth (25.9%), Minicoy (20.9%), Amini (19.8%), Kadmat (18.1%), Chetlat (16.2%), Kiltan (14.9%), Kalpeni (13.4%), Agatti (8.6%) and Bitra (6.7%).

Table given below shows the percentage literacy by level of education among working class and non-working class population by sex.

TABLE

PERCENTAGE LITERACY BY LEVELS OF EDUCATION
AMONG WORKING CLASS AND NON WORKING
CLASS POPULATION DURING 1971 CENSUS
OF L.M. & A. ISLANDS

Union Territory	Educational level	Percentage literacy among working class		Percentage literacy among non-working class	
		Males	Females	Males	Females
1	2	3	4	5	6
L.M.&A. Islands	Illiterate	26.3	66.2	54.3	69.9
	Literate (without educational level) . .	28.3	18.6	18.2	17.9
	Primary	26.3	9.2	19.2	8.6
	Middle	7.1	1.6	7.6	2.7

1	2	3	4	5	6
	Matriculation or Higher Secondary	7.7	1.8	0.5	0.7
	Non-technical diploma or certificate not equal to degree	1.1	1.6	0.1	0.1
	Technical diploma or certificate not equal to degree	1.3	0.2	..	..
	Graduate and above	1.9	0.8	0.1	0.1

Among the male working class population, literate without educational level constitutes the largest proportion of workers (28.3%) which is followed by Primary (26.3%), Matriculation or Higher Secondary (7.4%) and Middle (7.1%) etc. The same pattern is followed in case of female but with lower proportions. Among the non-working class a significant proportion of persons of both the sexes are observed under the literate (without educational level), Primary and Middle. In case of higher educational level, the proportion of non-working population is infact negligible.

The industrial category 'X' viz. 'Non-workers' are further categorised as full time students, those attending to household duties, dependents and infants, retired persons, rentiers and persons of independent means, beggars and vagrants, inmates of penal, mental and charitable institutions and others. Out of the total population of 31,810 of Laccadive, Minicoy & Amin-divi islands, non-workers account for 23,492 persons i.e. 73.85%. The highest proportion of non-workers is observed at Androth (80.04%) followed by Kadmat (77.77%), Amini (76.16%), Kavaratti (76.09%) and Minicoy (75.70%). The proportion of non-workers in the remaining islands are below the union territory's average and the lowest being observed at Bitra (46.43%).

The following table shows the break-up of the type of non-workers as per 1971 Census.

TABLE

Non-workers	Persons	Percentage of total non-working population
Full time students	6,340	26.99
Household Duties	7,693	32.75
Dependents	8,623	36.71
Retired, rentiered and person of independent means	518	2.20
Beggars & vagrants	2	0.01
Inmates of Penal, Mental and charitable Institutions	19	0.08
Others	297	1.26
Total	23,492	100.00

Among the non-workers the students constitute 26.99% and the maximum number being at Minicoy (1139 persons). 32.75% are engaged in household duties, 36.71% are dependents and infants. Retired and rentier and persons of independent means account for 2.20%. There are only two beggars, vagrants etc. and 19 inmates of penal, mental and charitable institutions. The 'other non-workers' constitute 1.26% and infact this includes all non-workers who may not come under any of the six categories discussed above but are seeking work. The maximum number of persons of this type are found at Amini (71) closely followed by Kalpeni (67). There are no such persons at Bitra.

As regards 'Unemployment', no direct question was asked in the 1971 Census. However, the unemployed were expected to fall in the residuary category of

non-worker especially 'other non-workers' which excludes Household Attendant, Student, Retired person or a Rentier, Dependent (Infants, children etc.), Beggar, Institutional population etc. From this, we can have some rough idea about the number of unemployed persons.

Among the working population 85.5% are scheduled tribe. Out of 29,540 scheduled tribe population, 24.07% are workers whereas works participation in general population is 26.15%. The table given below shows the islandwise percentage distribution of scheduled tribe workers and non-workers by sex.

TABLE
PERCENTAGE OF WORKERS AND NON-WORKERS
BY SEX FOR SCHEDULED TRIBE POPULATION

Name of Island	Percentage of workers for Scheduled Tribe		Percentage of Non- workers for Schedul- ed Tribe	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
Laccadive, Minicoy & Amindivi Islands	34.97	13.40	65.03	86.60
Minicoy . . .	34.10	11.42	65.90	88.58
Kalpeni . . .	39.37	25.23	60.63	74.77
Androth . . .	30.62	6.89	69.38	93.11
Agatti . . .	41.77	30.57	58.23	69.43
Kavaratti . . .	29.03	3.18	70.97	96.82
Amini . . .	25.82	19.37	74.18	80.63
Kadmat . . .	41.53	1.10	58.47	98.90
Kiltan . . .	44.83	13.15	55.17	86.85
Chetlat . . .	50.36	11.13	49.64	88.87
Bitra . . .	69.64	37.50	30.36	62.50

Though the percapita expenditure in this union territory is very high, the backward economy in which the people live does not offer them much scope for pursuing diverse activities. The following table gives the distribution of scheduled tribe workers of L.M.&A. Islands into different categories.

TABLE

Category of workers	Number of scheduled tribe workers	Percentage of scheduled tribe workers
Total workers	7,110	100·00
I. As Cultivators	4	0·06
II. As Agricultural labourers	..	..
III. In Livestock, Forestry, Fishing, Plantation etc.	2,185	30·73
IV. In Mining and Quarrying	4	0·06
V. In Manufacturing, Processing, Servicing and Repairs		
(a) Household Industry	2,475	34·81
(b) Other than Household In- dustry	444	6·25
VI. In Construction	461	6·48
VII. In Trade & Commerce	237	3·33
VIII. In Transport, Storage and Com- munication	377	5·30
IX. In Other Services	923	12·98

It is clear from the above table that the economy of the scheduled tribe population is mainly based on the primitive trades like Fishing and Plantations and

Household Industry like coir making. These two trades alone constitute 65.54% of the total scheduled tribe workers. Further, due to initiation of the planned development activities, a considerable increase (12.98%) in work participation rate under 'Other Services' has also been observed.





An Island Scene

CHAPTER X

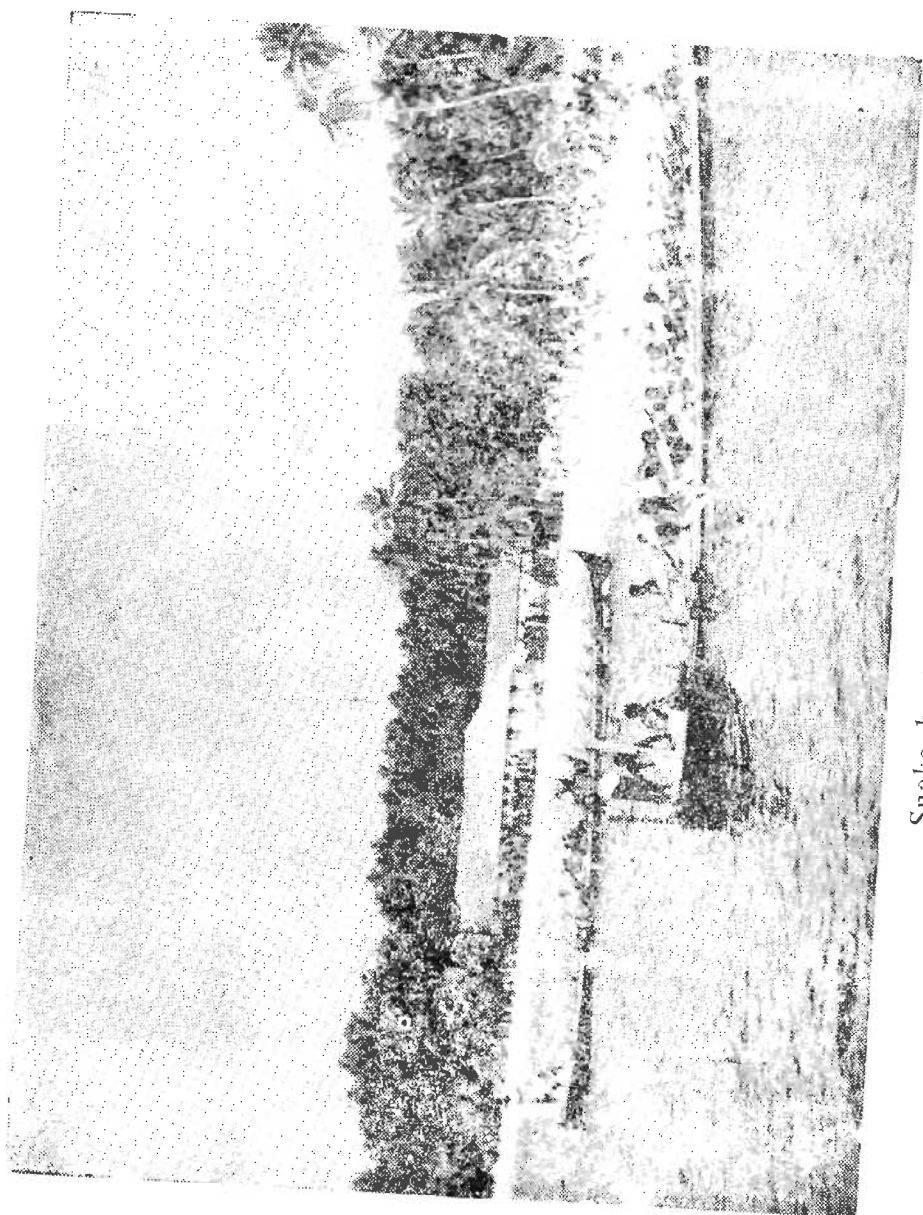
SUMMING UP

The coral islands of the Arabian sea known as Lakshadweep form the smallest Union Territory of the Republic of India. From geological point of view, these islands are considered to be the continuation of the Aravally system of rocks of Rajasthan and Gujarat. These beautiful islands are lying scattered in the Arabian sea about 192 to 320 Kms off the west coast of Kerala between 8° and 12° -30' north latitude and 71° and 74° east longitude. They are 27 in number consisting of ten inhabited, twelve uninhabited islands and five attached islets. The distance in between islands varies from 6 to 114 nautical miles. The inhabited islands are entirely rural and thickly populated. The inhabitants, entirely muslims by religion are classified as scheduled tribes. With this background and through the preceding chapters viz. the population, its growth, sex ratio, religion, literacy and occupation etc. We shall give below a summary of the portrait of our population.

This union territory is the smallest in area as well as the least in population among the states/union territories of our country. A population of 31,810 are spread over an area of 32 Sq. Kms with a density of 994 persons per Sq. Kms as compared to all India density of 177 persons per Sq. Km. Among the states and union territories, Laccadive, Minicoy & Amindivi islands ranks 30th by size of population and land area respectively and 3rd in density. The average density of population which was 755 persons per Sq. Kms. in 1951 has increased to 831 in 1961 and 994 in 1971. Thus one can easily visualise the problem of landman ratio in our union territory.

It is very difficult to appreciate the effect of over population and its disastrous potentialities. During the last 70 years i.e. from 1901-1971, the population of this union territory has increased by 129 percent. The decade 1961-71 has witnessed an abnormal increase in population i.e 31.95 percent which is 7.9 percent more than all India decadal growth. The annual geometric growth rate of this union territory comes to 2.8 percent which is 0.6 percent higher than all India growth rate during 1961-71. If this growth rate continues unabated, according to some experts, India's population will cross one billion mark by 2000 AD. According to the estimates based on the current growth rate, the population of our union territory in the year 1981 will be 41,000 and 70,000 in 2000 AD. This is further supported by the vital rates calculated on the basis of sample Registration System data. Though we have been able to effect significant control over mortality, but our birth rate has fallen marginally resulting accelerated growth of population. Since marriage is universal in India, it is of great significant to find out the number of married women in the reproductive age-group for measuring the fertility rates. According to 1971 Census of our union territory, the percentage of unmarried women in the age-group 10 and above was 22.2 percent whereas that of married women in the same age-group was 62.7 percent. With such high proportion of married women one can easily visualise the gravity of the problem in the context of growth of population.

Since the turn of century, the number of the females per 1,000 males has been declining in every decade. Till 1961, Laccadive, Minicoy & Amindivi islands had maintained a favourable sex ratio with 1020 females per one thousand males, but it has gone down to 978 in 1971 placing her in sixth rank from 3rd rank in 1961. However, there exist inter island



Snake boat race, Minicoy

variations and accordingly, except Agatti, Kavaratti, Amini and Kiltan the sex ratio in other islands in 1971 was favourable to females.

The continuing higher birth rate has resulted in the type of age structure of the population of our union territory as well as of the whole of our country with a flat base tapering off rapidly in the higher ages. Infants, children and young boys and girls constitute 40.81 percent of the population of this union territory. Youthfulness of our population will compell us in investing a considerable part of our funds on schools and special medical facilities. The population in the age group—0-14 and 60 + together constitutes 45.89 percent is called 'dependant population' and they are infact liability on the shoulders of our working age population who constitutes 54.11 percent of the total population.

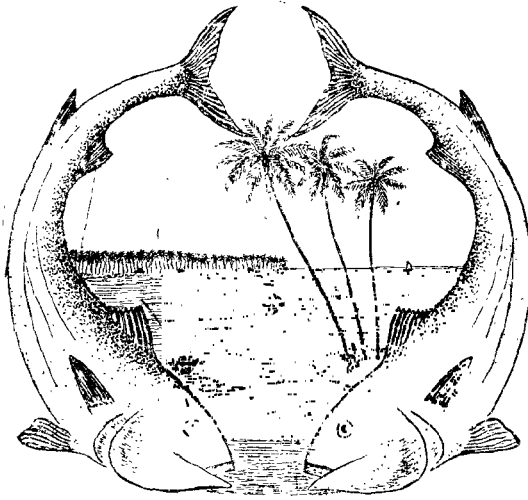
Out of the 13,889 literate persons of our union territory, 54.48 percent are males and 30.56 percent are females. The effective literacy rate excluding children under 5 has improved from 27 percent in 1961 to 52 percent in 1971. In case of females, remarkable progress in literacy that is from 13 percent in 1961 to 36 percent in 1971 has been achieved. Among the school going children, only 48 percent are literate. This reminds us that we are not fulfilling the mandate of constitution for universal and free education of all children. However, the picture in respect of educational level of this union territory is not discouraging. Besides sufficient increase in the number of Matriculates, the 1971 census also recorded 213 degree holders and technical personnels.

As per 1971 Census, only 26.15 percent of the total population of this union territory constitute the working class population and thus work participation

rate comes to be the lowest among all states and union territories of India. In case of scheduled tribe population the work participation rate works out to be 24.1 percent only. Owing to the special location of these islands, the economy still remains backward since we neither can classify it as industrial nor agricultural. In fact the entire cultivable area is thickly planted by coconut trees and the cultivation of coconut and the export of copra form the nucleus of the islands economy. The chief occupation of the males are copra making, plantation and fishing whereas coir twisting is mainly done by the women folk. Some subsidiary industries like vinegar, pickles and jaggery making are also in existence. Besides above, nearly 21 percent of the workers are engaged in 'other services' which is undoubtedly higher than many other states and union territories of India. However, the density of population coupled with the increasing literate and semiliterate unemployed, poor industrialisation and lack of interest in agricultural pursuits will create more pressure in 'other services' such as social and personal services. This may possibly put the economy still backward.

The 1971 Census which is the 11th in the series completes one century of our taking census. The next national stock taking and reckoning of the progress made will be conducted in 1981. There is no doubt that the trend in the growth of population and other demographic characteristics have a bearing on the social and economic conditions of place and the Census of 1971 has once again brought to light our resources in men and materials. In a welfare state like India, providing food, clothing, houses, schools, hospitals, sanitations, employment opportunities as well as raising standard of living are great challenges to the economy. In this great march of nation, census plays a key role through providing massive data for our socio-economic

planning. Since next census will be conducted in the year 1981, it is hoped that every one would give one's fullest cooperation for successful completion of this national task.



CONFIDENTIAL

APPENDIX I

CENSUS OF INDIA 1971

Individual Slip

Pad No.

Slip No.

Household No. E

16. MAIN ACTIVITY

(a) Broad-category

(1) Worker (C, AL, HHL, OW)

(2) Non-Worker (B, I, O)

(b) Place of work (Name of Village/Town)

(c) Name of Establishment

(d) Nature of Industry, Trade Profession of Service

(e) Description of Work

(f) Class of worker

17. SECONDARY WORK

(a) Broad-category

(b) Place of work (Name of Village/Town)

(c) Name of Establishment

(d) Nature of Industry, Trade Profession of Service

(e) Description of Work

(f) Class of worker

18. BIRTH PLACE

(a) Rural/Urban

(b) District

(c) State/Country

(d) Place of last residence

(e) Rural/Urban

(f) District

(g) State/Country

(h) Duration of Residence at the Village or town of Enumeration

(i) State/Country

(j) Duration of Residence at the Village or town of Enumeration

(k) Religion

(l) S. C. or S. T.

(m) Literacy (L or O)

(n) Educational level

(o) Mother Tongue

(p) Other languages

(q) Class of worker

(r) Class of worker

(s) Class of worker

(t) Class of worker

(u) Class of worker

(v) Class of worker

(w) Class of worker

(x) Class of worker

(y) Class of worker

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(aa) Class of worker

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APPENDIX II

IMPLICATIONS OF THE TERMS USED IN INDIVIDUAL SLIP

Name.—Meant the name of the person enumerated. In case the name was not known or could not be ascertained it was written as "So and so's wife, mother or daughter".

Relationship to Head.—The head of the household for census purposes was a person who was recognised as such in the household. He was generally the person who bore the chief responsibility for maintenance of the household and took decision on behalf of the household.

Sex.—Males and females were recorded as such. Eunuchs were recorded as male.

Age.—The age of the persons in total years completed last birth day was recorded. In case the age was less than one, zero was recorded.

Marital status.—The marital status of a person was recorded under following heads:

1. Never married;
2. Married;
3. Widowed; and
4. Separated or divorced.

For Currently Married Women only.—This question was asked from currently married females only. a) Age at marriage meant the age in completed years at the time of marriage, b) In case of every live birth 'Yes' was entered in this column. In case the number of Children born was more than one their number was also recorded.

Birth Place.—It was recorded in respect of each person. If the person was born outside village or town of enumeration, it was ascertained whether the place was Rural or Urban. If the place of birth was outside the district, the name of the district; if born outside the State the name of the State/Union Territory,

and if born outside the Indian Union the name of the country was also recorded. In 1971 the migrational particulars with reference to the place of last residence were also collected which yielded valuable and realistic data on internal migration.

Rural-Urban.—An uniform definition was adopted in 1971 Census in respect of urban area :

- (a) It included all Municipal Boards, Corporations, Cantonments and Notified Areas.
- (b) In addition other places which satisfied following criteria were also deemed to be urban areas :
 - (i) A minimum population of 5,000.
 - (ii) at least 75% of the male working population was non-agricultural.
 - (iii) a density of population of at least 400 per Sq. Km. (i.e. 1000 per Sq. Mile).

Religion.—The religion of each individual as returned by him was recorded.

Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe.—Every person enumerated was asked whether he was a member of any Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe. In case the reply was in the affirmative the name of Scheduled Caste/Tribe returned, was recorded.

Literacy.—A literate was a person who could both read and write with understanding in any language.

Educational level.—The highest educational level attained was recorded. The information on literacy and educational level was collected from each individual.

Mother Tongue.—Mother Tongue was defined as language spoken in childhood by the person's mother to the person. If the mother died in infancy the language mainly spoken in the person's home, in childhood, was recorded as the Mother Tongue. Besides the mother tongue, other language known to an individual was recorded.

Economic activities: Main Activity.—The main activity of a person was ascertained according as he spent his time basically

as a worker producing goods and services or as a non worker. Work involved not only the actual work but also effective supervision and direction of work. The person was categorised according to the main activity returned by an individual. The classifications adopted were as follows:

- (i) Working as Cultivator;
- (ii) Working as Agricultural Labourer;
- (iii) Working at Household Industry, and
- (iv) Other workers.

Secondary Work.—Secondary work was also recorded in respect of persons who had returned some work as his main activity. Where a person, who was basically a 'Non-Worker' such as student or house wife, did make some marginal contribution to work, it was recorded under 'Secondary Work'.

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PUBLICATION PROGRAMME

Portrait of Population —	A descriptive analysis.
Part II-A	General Population Tables (A-Series)
Part II-B	Economic Tables (B-Series)
Part II-C	Social and Cultural Tables (C & F Series)
Part II-D	Migration Tables (D-Series)
Part III } Part IV }	Establishments Report and Tables & Housing Report and Tables
Part VIII-A	Administration Report - Enumeration (Not for sale - for official use only)
Part X	District Census Handbook